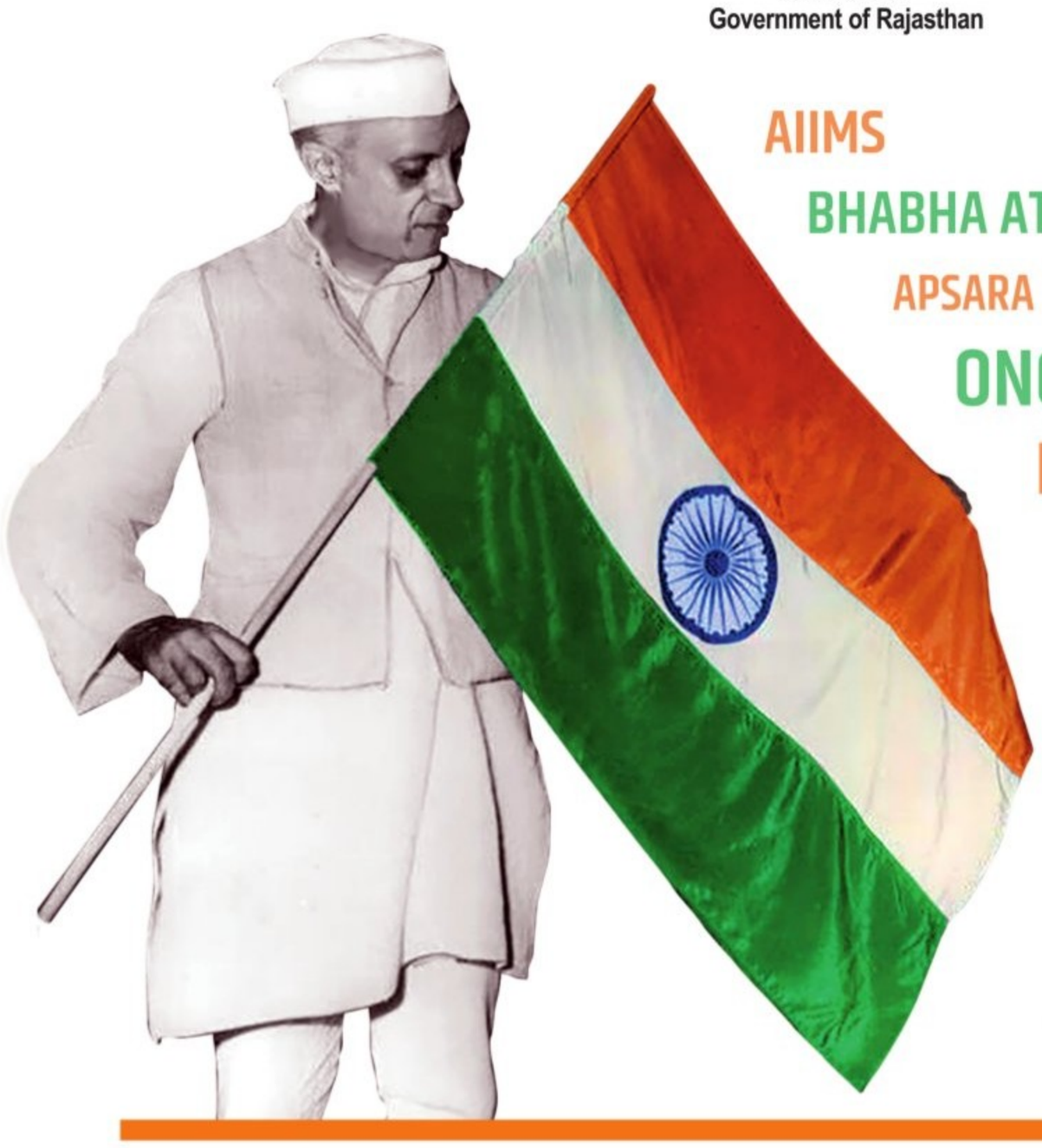
THE NEW
INDIAN EXPRESS
BENGALURU • MONDAY • AUGUST 15, 2022 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 20 • LATE CITY EDITION

WORLD HAS SEEN NEW INDIA RISING: PREZ

India has helped the world discover the true potential of democracy and the keyword for the country today is compassion for the downtrodden, needy and those on the margins, President Droupadi Murmu said in her maiden address to the nation on the eve of the 76th Independence Day on Sunday. She said major economic reforms are being accompanied by innovative welfare initiatives and the world has seen "a new India rising in recent years, more so after the outbreak of Covid-19." | P12

सत्यमेव जयते
Government of Rajasthan

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav
Har Ghar Tiranga



AIIMS
BHABHA ATOMIC RESEARCH CENTRE
APSARA NUCLEAR REACTOR
ONGC
IIT
INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION
IIM
NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT
BHAKRA NANGAL DAM
ISRO (INCOSPAR)
DRDO

Now the tricolour has been hoisted, it must not be lowered

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru
(In the Lahore Session of Congress,
on the banks of Ravi River on 31 December, 1929)

Happy
Independence Day
to all the people of Rajasthan and the Nation

"Tricolour is the symbol of social harmony and unity in diversity with respect to all religions, castes, classes and regions of our country and this should be the identity of every Indian. In the many development works done in the 75 years of independence, we have never left these values. Let us contribute to the dignity of the tricolour in the true sense, by embodying these basic principles as our identity."

Ashok Gehlot, Chief Minister

Department of Information & Public Relations, Rajasthan

Rajasthan Samwad

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LOAN CAMPAIGN AT ALL OUR BRANCHES
upto 20.08.2022

Our Country Our People Our Bank
Freedom is a sense of belonging. Let's celebrate it!

Happy Independence Day

/tmbankltd

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Happy Independence Day
75 Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

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QuoteExpress

ONCE A NEW TECHNOLOGY ROLLS OVER YOU, IF YOU'RE NOT PART OF THE STEAMROLLER, YOU'RE PART OF THE ROAD › STEWART BRAND

Karnataka State Road Safety Authority
(Strive for Road Accident Free State)
Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

DON'T VIOLATE TRAFFIC RULES

DON'T BE SCARED TO ASSIST ROAD ACCIDENT VICTIMS

The alarming rate of road accidents is one of the biggest causes of worry in India. It is necessary for everyone to be aware of road safety, traffic rules & regulations. Traffic signs can give you important informations that can ensure your safety and also the safety of those around you. Awareness of motor vehicle driving regulations can lower the rate of accidents.

Department Responsibilities

- Educating and training for Road users
- Providing safer roads for all road users
- Conducting safety and awareness programmes

Road User's Responsibilities

- Wear Helmet while Riding (BIS Certified Helmet)
- Don't forget to fasten safety belts
- Keep a safe distance between the vehicles
- Avoid Rash & Negligent Driving
- Always Drive within Speed Limit
- Do not use Mobiles while driving
- Avoid driving during drowsiness
- Don't drink and drive

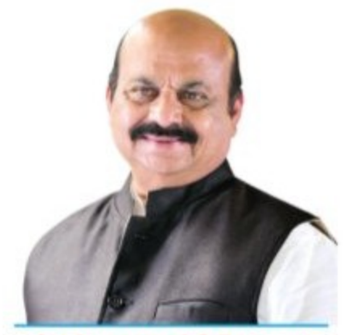
Good Samaritan is a person who helps road accident victims to get medical aid

- No enquiry or detention by Govt.,
- No disclosure of personal identity
- You are protected under law

Help the road accident victims to save their lives.
Alert, Act, Be a Good Samaritan

* As per Motor Vehicle Act 1988 violation of the act & rules is a crime.

LIFE IS PRECIOUS. PRIORITY FOR SAFE DRIVING



Sri Basavaraj S Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Sri B. Shriramulu,
Hon'ble Minister for Transport and Tribal Welfare Department Participating in departmental programme.

"Sadak Suraksha Jeevan Raksha"

To cherish and follow the noble ideals which inspired our national struggle for freedom - is the fundamental duty of every citizen of the country

Dr. N.V. Prasad I.A.S
Principal Secretary to Govt.,

T.H.M. Kumar I.A.S
Commissioner for Transport & Road Safety

J. Gnanendra Kumar
Additional Commissioner
Karnataka State Road Safety Authority

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Liz Truss in commanding lead over Rishi Sunak

An opinium poll for 'The Observer' newspaper showed that of 570 Conservative members with a vote in the election, Truss is on 61 per cent and the British Indian former minister is on 39 per cent. With under three weeks to go before the September 2 deadline for postal and online votes to be cast by the membership to elect a successor to outgoing Prime Minister Boris Johnson, Sunak seems to have closed the gap only slightly in recent days.

Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

NAVA KARNATAKA
FOR NAVA BHARAT

Shri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister

OUR PLEDGE
Fulfilling the aspirations of New India & building a prosperous Karnataka for the development of all

On the occasion of India's 76th Independence Day, we must remember the sacrifices of our freedom fighters and take a pledge to build India of their dreams. Under Prime Minister Sri Narendra Modi's able leadership, India has made significant strides in the last eight years. In Karnataka, Sri Basavaraj Bommai-led government has introduced several welfare and development-oriented schemes and is implementing them successfully.

Har Ghar Tiranga
13th-15th August 2022

Amritha Schemes
Amrit Mahotsav
- Implementation of Amritha Schemes for various development programmes as part of India's 75th Independence Day celebrations

Farmers' Welfare

- Secondary Agricultural Directorate established to boost farmers' income
- Raitha Shakti Yojane: Diesel subsidy @ Rs.250 per acre to encourage mechanization in agriculture (Max. 5 acres). Rs.400 crore allocated.
- PM Krishi Samman Scheme: Rs.1,975.12 crore distributed to 50.35 lakh farmers in 2021-22 and Rs.956.71 crore distributed to 47.83 lakh farmers through DBT
- Farm mechanization: Distribution of Rs.483.56 Crore assistance to agriculture processing units. 4.54 lakh farmers benefitted
- PM Krishi Sinchayi Scheme: Drip irrigation systems installed in the farms of 3.12 lakh farmers
- Krishi Sanjeevini Scheme: 160 Mobile Crop Health Clinics dedicated to the nation for the proper management of pests, disease, weed problem and deficiency of soil nutrient deficiencies
- National Award for Karnataka for Agriculture Infrastructure Fund scheme

Amrit Mahotsav

- Amruthabharathige Kannadadarathi program as part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav 75 books on freedom fighters released.
- To identify places of 75 freedom fighters and build their memorials. PM Modi appreciated this during his 'Man-Ki-Baat' speech.
- PM's 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign has received an overwhelming response in Karnataka. Our heartfelt thanks to the people of Karnataka.

Vidyanidhi Scheme

- Raitha Vidyanidhi Scheme: Rs.439.95 crore worth of scholarships distributed to 10.03 lakh children of farmers. The scheme has been extended to the children of fishermen, yellow board taxi drivers and weavers.

Fisheries-Dairy Farming-Sericulture

- 'Matsya Siri' Scheme to improve the income of fishermen. Under this scheme, 100 deep sea shipping vessels will be introduced in the State.
- To establish Ksheerasmruddhi Cooperative Bank for the benefit of milk producers
- Rs.10,000 incentive per tonne of bivoltine cocoons
- Incentive increased by Rs.50 for every kg of bivoltine cocoons

Priority for education

- Karnataka - the first State to implement National Education Policy 2020
- Seven Govt. Engineering Colleges of the State upgraded as Karnataka Institute of Technology (KIT)
- Historical step taken to build 8101 classrooms at a cost of Rs.1,412 crore

SC-ST Welfare

- Rs.28,234 crore allocated under SCSP/TSP projects
- Rs.580.19 crore grants and additional grants of Rs.410 crore for SC/ST Corporations. Total Rs.990.19 crore
- Rs.572.18 crore scholarships for SC/ST students
- Free electricity to poor SC/ST families raised from 45 units to 75 units. 39.25 Lakh families will be benefitted.
- Construction of 100 Ambedkar Hostels and 10 KREIS Residential School buildings at a cost of Rs.750 crore.

Welfare of Other Backward Communities
- Rs.2,249.66 crore allocated for Backward Classes Welfare Department for 2022-23.
- The allocation for all boards and corporations for OBCs is Rs.478.09 crore for 2022-23
- Construction of well-equipped buildings for 50 "Kanakadasa" hostels of backward communities housed in rented buildings at a cost of Rs.165 Crore.

Support for weavers & construction workers

- Assistance under Nekara Samman increased from Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 5,000
- Scholarships introduced for children of building construction workers. Rs. 462.12 crore distributed to 2.97 lakh students.

Increase in agricultural production

- Karnataka produced 160.28 lakh tonnes of foodgrains in 2020-21. A significant record to date.

Stree Samarthya

- Stree Samarthya: To further enhance business activity in SHGs, Rs. 500 crore community capital corpus released to 33,333 SHGs @ Rs.1.5 lakh per SHG. To benefit 3.9 lakh women.
- Rs.75 crore seed capital released to 7,500 women SHGs to establish small businesses under Amrutha SHG Micro Enterprise Scheme

Health & Family Welfare

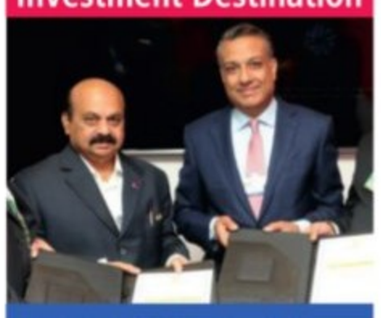
- Special measures for COVID management. 11.56 crore COVID vaccines administered
- Opening of 438 'Namma Clinics' underway in prominent cities
- Upgradation of 100 Primary Health Centres (71 PHCs from North Karnataka) into Community Health Centres.

Social Security

- Monthly pension increased by Rs.200 for widows, differently-abled and beneficiaries under Sandhya Suraksha, Manasvini and Maitri Schemes.
- Acid Victims' monthly pension increased from Rs.3,000 to Rs.10,000.
- Pension increased from Rs.1,400 to Rs.2,000 for those with a 75% mental disorder.
- Altogether, 74.22 lakh beneficiaries will be benefitted.
- Monthly Honorarium of Asha, Anganwadi Workers/Assistants, Cook-cum-Helpers engaged in Midday Meal Scheme, Village Assistants raised by Rs.1,000.

Swami Vivekananda Yuva Shakti Yojane

- Swami Vivekananda Yuva Shakti Yojane: Constitution of 27,395 "Swami Vivekananda SHGs' @ 1 SHG per GP to encourage the rural youth to take up self-employment and economic activities.
- Goal to provide skill training to 65 lakh rural youth.

Karnataka No. 1 Investment Destination

- No. 1 in FDI. MoUs for 1.31 lakh crore worth of investment signed at the World Economic Forum held in Davos and later
- Karnataka has bagged first place in Niti Aayog's India Innovation Index 2022
- Special Employment Policy approved to create job opportunities for the local youth

Urban Development

- Chief Minister's Amrutha Nagarotthana Yojane: Rs.6,000 crore allocated for development of Bengaluru infrastructure.
- Chief Minister's Amrutha Nagarotthana Yojane: (Local Bodies) Rs.3,885 crore allocated.

Regional Balance
- Grants for the development of Kalyana Karnataka doubled. Rs.3,000 crore allocated.

Amrit Mahotsav

76th Independence Day Greetings to all the citizens of the State

As enshrined in our Constitution, - to safeguard public property and to abjure violence is the fundamental duty of every citizen of India.

karnataka information
Department of Information and Public Relations

REMEMBERING AN ICON ON HIS BIRTHDAY

Dr. R N Shetty

Founder - R N Shetty Group of Companies

15.08.1928 | 17.12.2020

A lifetime of sacrifice and success,
your achievements continue to
guide us as we follow your footsteps
towards serving our communities.

Remembered by

Family, Friends and Staff of R N Shetty Group of Companies

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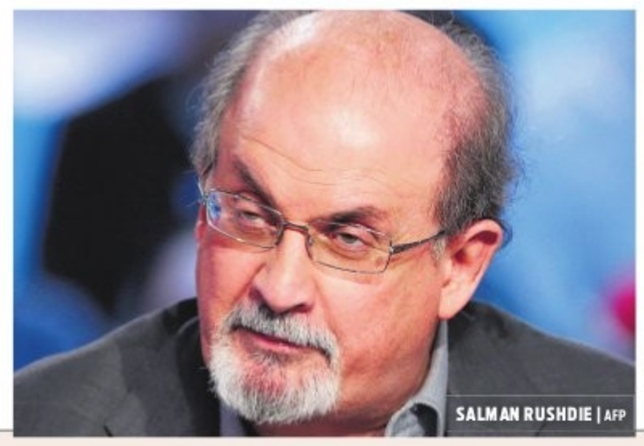


SALMAN RUSHDIE | AFP

The New Indian Express wishes its readers a

Happy Independence day

RUSHDIE OFF VENTILATOR, BEGINS TALKING AND JOKING

The Booker Prize winner on Sunday began his long road to recovery, days after he was stabbed at a literary event in US

SON SAYS RUSHDIE'S SENSE OF HUMOUR INTACT

Rushdie's agent Andrew Wylie said the author's recovery will be a long process as his injuries are severe. However, his condition is headed in the right direction, Wylie said. Rushdie's son Zafar Rushdie said though the brutal attack has left his father with life-changing injuries, "his usual feisty and defiant sense of humour remains intact"

SUNAK CALLS FOR NEW SANCTIONS ON IRAN

- UK prime ministerial hopeful Rishi Sunak sharply criticised the attack on Rushdie and sought fresh sanctions on Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps, which inspired the attacker
- Meanwhile, the 24-year-old Hadi Matar who stabbed Rushdie pleaded not guilty to the charge of attempted murder | P13

Feb 2023

WHEN RUSHDIE'S NEXT NOVEL *VICTORY CITY* IS EXPECTED TO BE PUBLISHED

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

PLAIN-SPEAKING BILLIONAIRE WHO KNEW HIS BETS

ARSHAD KHAN/DIPAK MONDAL
@ New Delhi

IT might appear absurd when an established market investor decides to start an airline, given what the sector has done to erstwhile billionaires — from Vijay Mallya of Kingfisher Airlines to Naresh Goyal of Jet Airways. But for eternal optimist Rakesh Jhunjhunwala (62), it was a calculated risk. He was sure his 'Akasa' would carve a niche for itself in the fiercely competitive civil aviation market.

RAKESH JHUNJHUNWALA
5 JULY 1960 ■ 14 AUG 2022

Much before he decided to ferry air passengers, Jhunjhunwala was moving equity markets and stock prices with his conviction bets, and the loads of money he made trading/investing in the market. Jhunjhunwala passed away at the Breach Candy hospital in Mumbai on Sunday following cardiac arrest.

Known by many sobriquets like Big Bull and India's Warren Buffett, he started investing in the equity market during his college days in 1980s. Over the next 35 years, he went on to build a portfolio worth over ₹31,000 crore. He was among the top 500 richest people in the world, according to *Forbes*, with a net worth of $5.8 billion. He learnt the tricks not in any Ivy League management institute, but by going through the grind of taking investment bets — some of which also failed — very early in his career. Of course, being a qualified chartered accountant would have come in handy as an investor.

Jhunjhunwala made his first big buck in 1986 when he bought shares worth ₹5,000 in Tata Tea at ₹43 apiece. In three months, its price surged to around ₹143 apiece. His affection for Tata stocks remained intact. Shares of Tata Motors, Indian Hotels Company, Tata Communications and Titan stayed in his portfolio even after the end of June 2022 quarter. His portfolio had about four-dozen companies. Star Health, Metro Brands, Canara Bank, Fortis and Federal Bank shares were some of the other prominent stocks he held.

CONTINUED ON: P14

BJP, Congress spar on Nehru

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

The competing politics between the ruling BJP and the Congress over Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first prime minister, spilled over to this year's Independence Day celebrations, the build-up for which has been billed as *Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav*.

In a video released on Sunday as part of its narrative of events that led to Partition in 1947, the BJP sought to obliquely blame Nehru for bowing to the demands of the Jinnah-led Muslim League that led to the creation of Pakistan.

In the tweet accompanying the video, which showed Nehru prominently, the BJP said, "Those who had no knowledge of India's cultural heritage, civilisation, values and pilgrimages, drew a border among people living together for ages in just three days. Where were those people who had the responsibility to fight against such divisive forces?"

The Congress tore into it, with party leader Jairam Ramesh saying Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "real intent" to mark August 14 as 'Partition Horrors Remembrance Day' was to "use the most traumatic historical events as fodder for his current political battles".

Earlier in the day, a full-page advert placed by the Karnataka government to observe the *Har Ghar Tiranga* campaign, raked up a controversy when it included a photo of Savarkar but not Nehru. "Because of Nehru, India is divided into India and Pakistan. That is why his photo was omitted in the adverts," Karnataka BJP spokesperson Ravi Kumar claimed.

Calling the omission politically motivated, the Congress demanded Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai's sack.

"It is a shame on India's democracy and freedom," Karnataka Congress president D K Shivakumar said. A new controversy erupted as Congress leader Mallikarjun Kharge did not get a Karnataka government invite for the August 15 celebrations.

daCunha/AB/830

2 factions of BJP clash, Union Minister Khuba's car attacked

RAMKRISHNA BADSESHI @ Kalaburagi

Two factions of BJP clashed at Basavakalyan town of Bidar district on Saturday evening, leading to injuries to one of the activists.

Video clippings showed some BJP activists removing the numberplate of the car of Union Minister of State for Chemicals and Fertilisers Bhagawanth Khuba, who is also the Bidar MP. Khuba was taking part in a car rally to mark the 75th anniversary of Independence at Basavakalyan when party workers surrounded the car, banged it with their bare hands and pulled out the numberplate.

What angered a section of party workers, who are said to be followers of Basavakalyan MLA Sharanu Salgar, was that their leader was not given prominence by Khuba's men in the car rally.

Khuba confirmed the incident to TNIE on Sunday, but said he has not lodged any complaint.

EXPRESS READ

More US lawmakers visit Taiwan 12 days after Pelosi

Taipei: A delegation of American lawmakers arrived in Taiwan on Sunday, just 12 days after a visit by US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi. The delegation will meet President Tsai Ing-wen to discuss US-Taiwan relations.

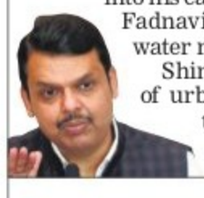
Terror module busted ahead of I-Day

Chandigarh: Punjab police on Sunday claimed to have busted an ISI-backed terror module and arrested four persons. The police said the terrorists were asked to strike before Aug 15 to disturb the country's peace.

Fadnavis gets home, finance; CM keeps urban development

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

MAHARASHTRA'S Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis got plum ministries of home and finance on Sunday as Chief Minister Eknath Shinde allocated portfolios, five days after inducting 18 new ministers into his cabinet. In addition to home and finance, Fadnavis will also look after law and justice, water resources, housing, and energy.



Shinde retained for himself key portfolios of urban development, general administration and Public Works Department and transportation.

INSIDE ▸▸ SHINING LIKE A DIAMOND P8

ಸ್ವಾತಂತ್ರ್ಯದ ಅಮೃತ ಮಹೋತ್ಸವ

ಬೃಹತ್ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ
ಎನ್.ಆರ್. ಚೌಕ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು–560 002.

ಸರ್ವರಿಗೂ 75ನೇ ವರ್ಷದ ಸ್ವಾತಂತ್ರ್ಯ ದಿನಾಚರಣೆಯ ಶುಭಾಶಯಗಳು

ಕ್ರಾಂತಿವೀರ ಸಂಗೊಳ್ಳಿ ರಾಯಣ್ಣರವರ
225ನೇ ಜಯಂತೋತ್ಸವ ಅಂಗವಾಗಿ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯದ
ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳಾದ
ಸನ್ಮಾನ್ಯ ಶ್ರೀ ಬಸವರಾಜ ಎಸ್. ಬೊಮ್ಮಾಯಿ
ರವರಿಂದ ಸಂಗೊಳ್ಳಿ ರಾಯಣ್ಣರವರ
ಪುತ್ಥಳಿಗೆ ಮಾಲಾರ್ಪಣೆ ಹಾಗೂ
ಗೌರವ ಸಮರ್ಪಣೆ

ದಿನಾಂಕ: 15.08.2022,
ಸೋಮವಾರ, ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10:15 ಕ್ಕೆ
ಸ್ಥಳ: ಕಾಂತ್ರಿವೀರ ಸಂಗೊಳ್ಳಿ ರಾಯಣ್ಣ
ಪುತ್ಥಳಿ ಆವರಣ,
ದೇವರಾಜ ಅರಸು ವೃತ್ತ
(ಖೋಡೆ ಸರ್ಕಲ್),
ಕ್ರಾಂತಿವೀರ ಸಂಗೊಳ್ಳಿ ರಾಯಣ್ಣ
ರೈಲ್ವೆ ನಿಲ್ದಾಣದ ಎದುರು, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.

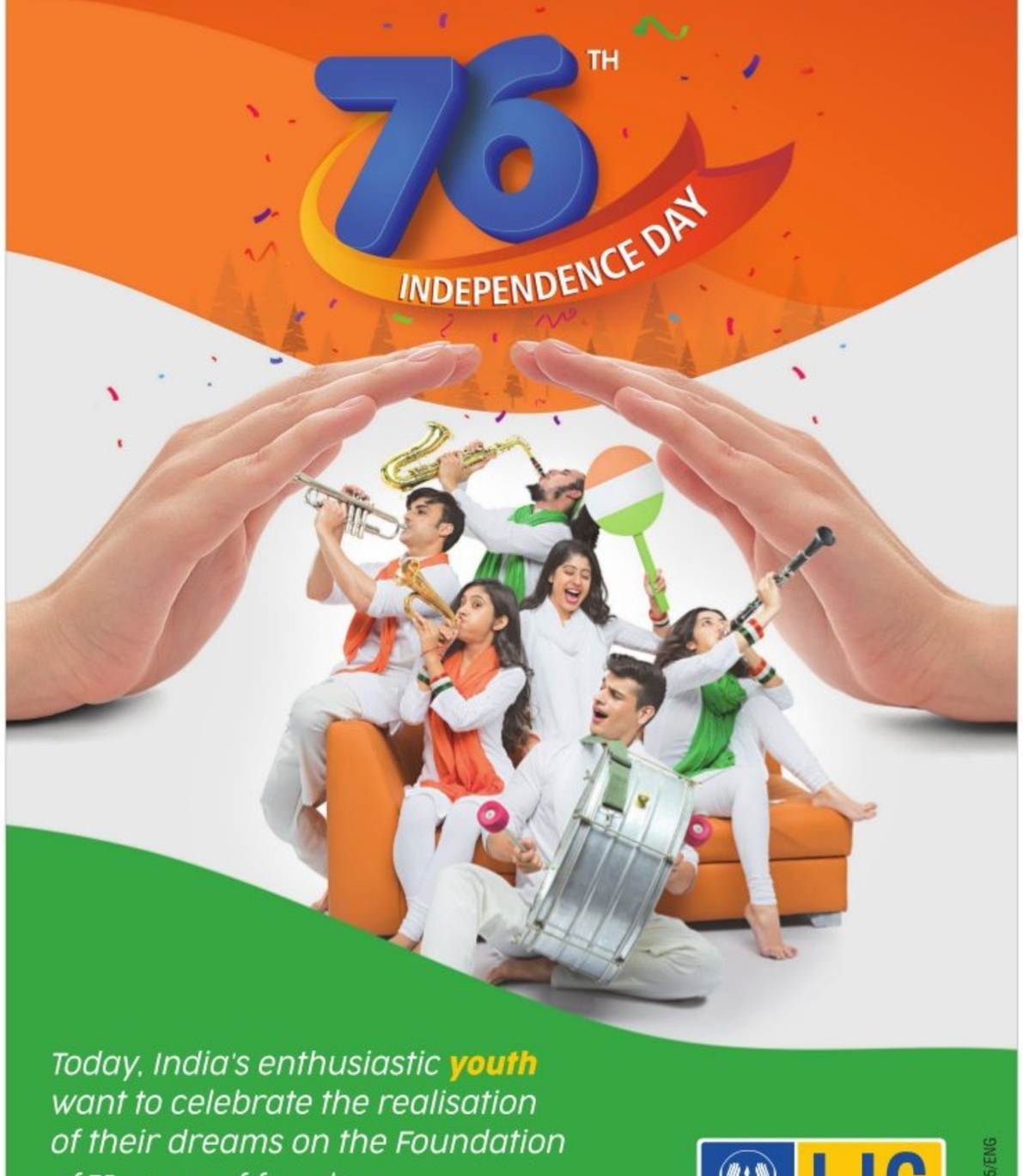
ರಾಕೇಶ್ ಸಿಂಗ್, ಭಾ.ಆ.ಸೇ.,
ಆಡಳಿತಗಾರರು, ಬಿಬಿಎಂಪಿ

ತುಷಾರ್ ಗಿರಿ ನಾಥ್, ಭಾ.ಆ.ಸೇ.,
ಮುಖ್ಯ ಆಯುಕ್ತರು, ಬಿಬಿಎಂಪಿ

"ಎಲ್ಲಾ ವೈಯಕ್ತಿಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಾಮೂಹಿಕ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಉನ್ನತ ಸಾಧನೆಯ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನಿಸಿ ದೇಶದ ಪ್ರಗತಿಗಾಗಿ ಶ್ರಮಿಸುವುದು ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಬ್ಬ ಭಾರತೀಯನ ಸಂವಿಧಾನಬದ್ಧ ಮೂಲಭೂತ ಕರ್ತವ್ಯ"

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

Celebrating freedom with young & secured India



Today, India's enthusiastic ***youth*** *want to celebrate the realisation of their dreams on the Foundation of 75 years of freedom. Let's secure them and their dreams.*

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भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम
LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA

Har Pal Aapke Saath

LIC/PRA/20-23/05/ENG

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU

06 BENGALURU | MONDAY 15.08.2022 | newindianexpress.com

ALMANAC TODAY
• **Monday:** 15/08/2022 • **Year:** Shubhakruta • **Ayana:** Dakshinayana
• **Ritu:** Varsha • **Masa:** Shravana • **Paksha:** Krishna • **Tithi:** Chathurthi 12.45 am
• **Nakshatra:** Uttharabhadra 1.38 am • Moon in Mesha Rashi • **Rahukaala:** 07.30 am to 09.00 am
• **Gulikakala:** 01.30 pm to 03.00 pm • **Yamaganda:** 10.30 am to 12.00 pm

WEATHER
MIN 20°C | MAX 28°C
FORECAST
Showers late. Overcast

Sunrise 6.07 am
Sunset 6.40 pm
Moonrise 9.27 pm
Moonset 9.03 am

Rapid Action Force and City Armed Reserve personnel march on a road in Chamarajpet on Sunday. (Below) Police personnel rehearse at the Chamarajpet Idgah Maidan in Bengaluru on Sunday | NAGARAJ GADEKAL

Chamarajpet Idgah Maidan fortified ahead of I-Day

As ownership row rages on, Independence Day celebrations to go ahead

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE police have made elaborate security arrangements at the Chamarajpet Idgah grounds, where the national flag will be hoisted on the occasion of the 75h year of Indian Independence, on Monday.

Police said around 800 police personnel including platoons of Karnataka State Reserve Police (KSRP), City Armed Reserve (CAR), and Rapid Action Force (RAF) will be stationed on the ground to avert any untoward incident. "Around 400 civil policemen, eight platoons of KSRP and CAR will be deployed at the ground. Besides, 240 personnel of the RAF and D-SWAT will be stationed at the venue to handle and contain any situation," a senior police officer said.

On Sunday afternoon, the RAF and D-SWAT personnel

carried out a route march to instil confidence in the public and to send a message to anti-social elements. They marched through Valmiki Nagar, Tipu Nagar, Azad Nagar, Chamarajpet and surrounding areas. In the evening, Home minister Araga Jnanendra visited the ground, where flag hoisting will be done at 8 am on Monday. Jnanendra reviewed the security arrangements and instructed officers to take all necessary steps to ensure no untoward incidents takes place. He was accompanied by DG & IGP Praveen Sood, city Police Commissioner CH Pratap Reddy, and other senior police officers.

The recent developments related to the Idgah ground had led to tensions, prompting the police to convene a series of peace meetings.

CAR platoon have been deployed on the ground since the BBMP had asked the Waqf Board to submit documents, over a month ago, to claim ownership of the land. As the board failed to produce document, the BBMP ,in an order, said that the land belonged to the revenue department. Following this, several groups had demanded to hoist the national flag at the ground, while pro-Hindu outfits also demanded permission to erect a Ganesha pandal.

18 K'taka cops get President's medal

BENGALURU: As many as 18 police officers and staff have been conferred with the President's Police Medal for Meritorious Service. The following is the list of officers: N Srinivas, SP & Principal, PTS Kadur; Pratap Singh Thorat, DySP, Bantwala sub-division, Dakshina Kannada; TM Shivakumar, DySP, High Court security, Bengaluru; JH Inamdar, DySP, DCRB, Kalaburagi; NT Srinivasa Reddy, DySP, CID, Forest Cell, Bengaluru; Narasimhamurthy P, DySP, CID, Bengaluru; Raghavendra Rao Sindhey, ACP, Finger Print Bureau, Bengaluru; Prakash R, DySP, ACB, Bengaluru; Dhruvaraj B Patil, Circle Police Inspector, Navalgunda Cicle, Dharwad; Mohammed Ali S, Police Inspector, ACB, Bengaluru; GC Raja, Police Inspector, Vidyaranyapura station, Mysuru; Ravi BS, Police Inspector, Shringeri station, Chikkamagaluru; Mufid Khan, Special Reserve Police Inspector, 1st Batallion, KSRP, Bengaluru; Mahadevaiah, Special Assistant Reserve Sub-Inspector, 4th Batallion, KSRP, Bengaluru; R Murali, Special Assistant Reserve Sub-Inspector, 3rd Batallion, KSRP, Bengaluru; Basavaraja B Andemmanavar, Assistant Intelligence Officer, State Intelligence, Bengaluru; Balkrishna D Shindhe, Assistant Sub-Inspector, District Special Branch, Belagavi, and Ranjit Shetty, Assistant Sub-Inspector, Kempegowda Nagar station, Bengaluru City.

Pre-paid auto stand to come up at 10 Metro stns

S LALITHA @ Bengaluru

THE exorbitant fares demanded by autorickhaw drivers from Metro stations to houses dotting Kanakapura Road, forced residents to seek the traffic police's help during a recent grievance redressal meet. To rein in exploitative auto drivers, police will be opening up pre-paid auto counters at ten Metro stations across Phase-I, and operational stations of Phase-II.

On January 15 last year, the Green Line extension between Yelachenahalli and Silk Institute was thrown open for commercial operations. With numerous apartment complexes along the stretch, the line was welcomed by residents. However, dependency on autos or cab aggregators for last-mile or first-mile connectivity has emboldened drivers to charge as per their whims. Yelachenahalli, Konanakunte Cross, Doddakallasandra, Vajrahalli, Thalaghattapura and Silk Institute are the six stations where commuters get fleeced daily.

Abdul Aleem, president, Changemakers of Kanakapura, an umbrella organisation of 60 resident welfare organisations, said, "Along with these six stations, Metro commuters struggle at JP Nagar too. We raised this issue during a meeting held at Vajrahalli last month, with the Police Commissioner and other top cops."

Lakshmi Balaji, a resident of Mantri Tranquil, said, "Our apartment is less than 1km from Doddakallasandra station, but auto drivers charge Rs 60-70. Uber Auto charged me Rs 94 for a trip last month. Local drivers take their cue from them."

DCP Traffic West, Kuldeep Jain told TNIE, "We will shortly bring in a pre-paid auto system at ten Metro stations. Banashankari and Yelachenahalli figure among them."

No one at BMRCL was able to provide details on the other stations where pre-paid facility would be made available.

FLAT RESIDENTS PICK UP EACH OTHER

To cut fleecing by autos and cab/auto aggregators, residents of Mantri Tranquil at Gubbalala on Kanakapura Road, located within 1km of Doddakallasandra Metro station, have created a WhatsApp group. Those who use personal vehicles put out an alert to others on the group when leaving the apartment to the station, or returning home from Doddakallasandra station.

CM Basavaraj Bommai flags off 75 Switch EiV 12 electric buses at Vidhan Soudha on Sunday. The induction was part of an order to include 300 electric buses into the BMTC fleet. Later, Bommai also took a ride in the bus. Mahesh Babu, CEO, Switch India, said with the increasing focus on electrification of mass public transportation, these buses will play a vital role in reducing carbon footprint in Bengaluru | NAGARAJ GADEKAL

Library digitisation a priority: Expert

ENS @ Bengaluru

DIRECTOR of Information and Library Network Centre (INFLIBNET) Prof J P Singh Joorel said that library automation must be made a priority in universities.

Prof Joorel was speaking at the two-day International Conference on Emerging Digital Library Platforms (ICEDLP) 2022, which was held in Bengaluru on the occasion of National Librarian's Day celebrated on August 12. He said that there is a major need for library automation, especially in university libraries, and technology must be used.

"Latest technologies like artificial intelligence, blockchains, digital interfaces and virtual reality must be made use of for the enhancement of libraries in India," he said. The conference was centred around 'Shaping Digital Transformation and National Data Exchange'.

Another deadline missed: Shivananda Circle flyover not to open today

MOHAMMED YACOOB @Bengaluru

THE Shivananda Circle steel bridge, which was to be opened to public on Independence Day, is likely to miss it's August 15 deadline as concrete work on culvert, asphalting and installation of sign boards is still pending.

Locals said that going by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's (BBMP) nature of missing the deadline or delaying project, locals are not astonished by another such delay.

The project was initially taken up at a cost of around Rs 15 crore, and due to delay and escalation of material and labour costs, the cost escalated to around Rs 40 crore. The bridge is about 493 meters long and is built according to guidelines by Indian Road Congress.

"We had planned to open the steel flyover to the public by August 15, 2022.

However, the work was delayed due to rain, asphalting on the flyover and concrete work on the culvert. The culvert work might take a week or 10 more days,"said M Lokesh, Chief Engineer, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike Projects.

The official had stated that the project was initially commissioned at an estimated cost of Rs 14.48 crore, and this was later escalated to Rs 22.89 crore. The cost reached Rs 39 crore as it reached it's completion stage. Had the palike decided to extend the flyover's length, the entire cost would have reached Rs 40 crore.

Once completed, motorists heading towards Majestic, Chalukya Circle, Malleshwaram and Vidhana Soudha would get to avoid traffic during peak hours on the stretch.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

15TH August : An imaginative Sun forms an interesting comparison with an inspirational Moon. The first is energetic and expansive, the second sensitive and imaginative. In my book, that makes for an interesting day! The downside is a lack of practical sense. That's why I'd advise caution in all things!

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
The world's astrologers are expecting you to take the lead this week. I know many of you may grumble, but you were born with undoubted leadership qualities, and the rest of us are now in need of your commanding skills. Yet there is no right way and no wrong way, so you can set your own strategy.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
If I said that this week's planetary conditions were bursting with potential, I'd be guilty of a massive understatement. I am not saying that you will be directly involved in exciting activities, but your total awareness of the world will be coloured by the brilliant encounters which parade themselves in front of you.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
Lunar alignments afford you considerable protection, but are also inclined to make you a little over-emotional. As soon as things begin to go wrong, you'll tend to panic. Stop and take a deep breath, count to ten and look around for the nearest escape hatch!

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
Sometimes you swing to extremes, and it's very difficult for anyone else to know which course you're following at any particular time. It is also often said that love and hate are two sides of the same coin. I cannot tell which way you will jump this week, but I can say that passions will be running high. Let us hope that love will triumph.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
Optimism is your greatest asset. Utterly unrealistic expectations, on the other hand, are not only your major handicap, but are all too likely to be dashed. You may not wish to believe it, but your sign is one of the most fortunate in the zodiac at the moment.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
I'll get the bad news out of the way first: you are liable to feel let down when somebody seems to disagree with you. The good news is that you're in with a high chance of getting your story straight and your act together. A rival may even admit that you're right after all!

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
Financial affairs hold the key to everything this week, whether purely personal or public and professional. If at all possible, do avoid all reckless and impulsive actions. These can only cost you dear. You might also be wondering whether an emotional tie is worth the price.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
You can expect fireworks this week. That's not a joke. There really is a strong chance that someone is going to go over the top. Make sure it's not you, and that you are on hand with soothing words. That is the least that a loved one expects, especially after all you've said in the past.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
You must bear in mind that nothing this week will be easy to understand. Mysteries abound and confusion will be rife, but if you can hang on until next week, you'll begin to see where it is all heading. Actually, the chances of reaching a firm agreement are better than you think.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
You need extra support, but it is honestly impossible to say whether it will be forthcoming. What others expect or imagine can only help you get to grips with your own affairs. You see, this is a deeply sociable time and whatever you do, whatever you say, everything hinges on your personal relationships.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
Jealousy, resentment and animosity are your enemies. If you give in to such feelings, you will risk all that you have so carefully built up. Professional people are now in a delicate position, perhaps because they will expose themselves to criticism.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
More than anyone, you are in a position to understand this week's many events. While others will be visited by trials and tribulations, you may stand back and take a typically philosophical approach. You understand that what seems terribly important now might be utterly irrelevant later.

THE PHANTOM

HI AND LOIS

IT IS SO HOT.
WHRRR
WHY CAN'T WE GET CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING?
YOUR MOTHER THINKS THIS CREATES MORE "FAMILY TOGETHERNESS."
LEMONADE!

BEETLE BAILEY

THE GENERAL HAS BEEN WORKING REALLY HARD ON SOMETHING ALL MORNING
CAN SOMEONE GET ME A NEW BOX OF CRAYONS? I'VE JUST ABOUT USED THIS ONE UP

BLONDIE

LOCKHORNS

DENNIS THE MENACE

SUDOKU

Hard: Test your number crunching skill with our unique puzzle

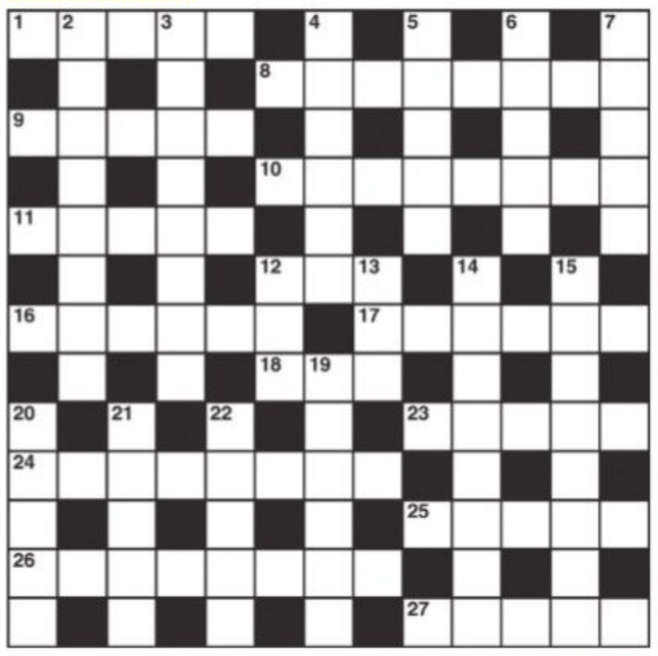
Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.

	7				4			
			2			1		
		8		5	7		4	
	3	7	1		6	4		
1								3
		6	4		3	7	8	
	6		7	9		8		
		9			5			
			6				9	

Solutions to Saturday's puzzle

8	7	3	1	2	4	5	9	6
4	9	6	7	8	5	1	2	3
1	2	5	3	6	9	4	8	7
5	6	7	4	1	8	9	3	2
9	1	8	6	3	2	7	4	5
2	3	4	5	9	7	6	1	8
3	8	1	9	5	6	2	7	4
6	4	2	8	7	1	3	5	9
7	5	9	2	4	3	8	6	1

CROSS WORD



ACROSS
1 Big jar say (5)
8 Light on one's feet now? (8)
9 New star around the East grows radiantly (5)
10 Entire triangle has to be reshaped (8)
11 Order of letters in the dictionary (5)
12 As quiet as a snake (3)
16 Rush job? (6)
17 Shrub generally known not to be hardy (6)
18 To love her is quite all right (3)
23 Sound asleep (5)
24 Stamps to commemorate a recent birth? (3,5)
25 I'm back with French friend in Florida (5)
26 New version of a decent love story (8)
27 Threatened strike that doesn't come off (5)

DOWN
2 Used rail transport and left (8)
3 They represent people a long time since perhaps (8)
4 Private workers are very big fellows (6)
5 Drive to park in roughly a mile (5)
6 Drops in to ask for some paper (5)
7 Remaining unruffled (5)
12 Vessel not encountered in a market (3)
13 Play lacking a way to work (3)
14 Route financed by employers (8)
15 The offer of money may make him cross (8)
19 Mature folk left in a flurry of dust (6)
20 Cain's other people (5)
21 Little in the way of dessert (5)
22 Confidence from fresh ideas (5)

SATURDAY'S: SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Nom de plume, 6 Kayo, 10 Dosed, 11 Candidate, 12 Charcoal, 13 Ibsen, 15 Appoint, 17 Stealth, 19 Landing, 21 Rissole, 22 Alibi, 24 Listless, 27 Ebullient, 28 Drawl, 29 Then, 30 Unromantic.

Down: 1 Nods, 2 Misshapen, 3 Elder, 4 Lockout, 5 Mangles, 7 Amass, 8 One in three, 9 Big ideas, 14 Parliament, 16 Initials, 18 Look smart, 20 Galleon, 21 Risotto, 23 Inure, 25 Lydia, 26 Alec.

JUMBLE By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MFYOA

HWERT

INWRYE

UTDBIO

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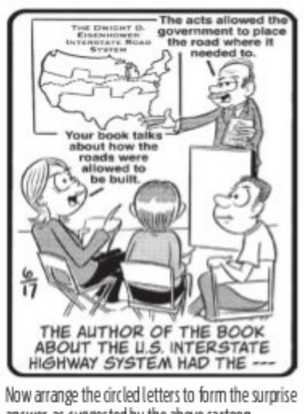

THE DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER INTERSTATE ROAD SYSTEM
The acts allowed the government to place the road where it needed to.
Your book talks about how the roads were allowed to be built.
THE AUTHOR OF THE BOOK ABOUT THE U.S. INTERSTATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM HAD THE ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon

" " " "

ANSWERS TOMORROW

SATURDAY'S **Jumbles:**
WEAVE BUDDY MOSAIC HONCHO
ANSWER: On the breezy day, Mount Rushmore's presidents were experiencing – HEADWINDS

DURATION OF PANDEMIC	CASES REPORTED	DEATHS	DISCHARGES
2 YEARS, 158 DAYS	■ 1,837 ◄ 1,329	■ 3 | ◄ 5	■ 1,017 | ◄ 1,614
	TALLY	POSITIVITY RATE	MORTALITY RATE
		■ 5.91% | ◄ 5.91%	■ 1.00% | ◄ 0.99%
■ TODAY	■ 40,31,283	ACTIVE CASES ■ 10,922	RECOVERY RATE ■ 98.73%
◄ YESTERDAY	◄ 40,29,446	◄ 10,105	◄ 98.75%

B'Urban: 1,108	Chagara: 24	Dharwada: 62	Kolara: 16	Shivamogga: 23
B'Rural: 24	Chikkaballapura: 8	Gadag: 0	Koppala: 10	Tumakuru: 24
Bagalakote: 12	Chikkamagaluru: 16	Hassana: 31	Mandya: 10	Udupi: 8
Ballari: 47	Chitradurga: 2	Haveri: 25	Mysuru: 141	Uttara Kannada: 21
Belagavi: 39	D Kannada: 20	Kalaburagi: 16	Raichuru: 39	Vijayapura: 2
Bidar: 2	Davanagere: 17	Kodagu: 17	Ramanagara: 70	Yadagiri: 3

Dengue on rise among pregnant women, raises risks for foetus

SHILPA P @ Bengaluru

CITY gynaecologists are seeing at least one case of dengue in pregnant women per week.

Expectant mothers can face complications of early pregnancy loss or preterm labour, stunted foetal growth and low birthweight, or even intrauterine death of the foetus, warned Dr Sunil Eshwar, lead consultant, Obstetrics & Gynaecology Infertility, Aster RV Hospital.

Explaining other severe consequences they might face, Dr Suhasini Inamdar, consultant-obstetrician & gynaecologist, Motherhood Hospital, Indiranagar, Bengaluru, said that antibodies of the dengue virus in expectant mothers can cross the placenta and get transferred to the foetus, which can cause dengue haemorrhagic fever or dengue shock syndrome. It also increases the risk of any neurologic congenital anomaly in the infant by roughly 50 per cent, and risk for congenital malformation of brain four-fold, she said. Doctors say that during pregnancy, women are vulnerable to infections and diseases due to decrease in immunity. They should protect themselves from mosquito bites by avoiding travelling to areas with widespread dengue cases, areas infested with mosquitoes, ensure mosquito control in their homes, use prescribed mosquito repellents, wear protective clothing, and ensure there is no stagnant water around the house, which can lead to mosquito breeding, say doctors.

"These women should ensure constant monitoring by doctors, pay attention to nutrition, hydration levels and consumption of more fluids to protect the child in the womb from any negative effects. They must include vital salts, essential to keep the body's vital levels," said Dr Shilpa Apte, senior consultant, Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Apollo Cradle & Children's Hospital, Koramangala, Bengaluru.

Incessant rain has brought on the dengue outbreak. "At Narayana Health City alone, we are seeing at least 10 suspected dengue cases per day," said Dr Mahesh Kumar, consultant, Internal Medicine, Narayana Health City.

According to health department sources, this month alone saw 235 confirmed dengue cases in the State and 115 cases in BBMP area of Bengaluru; last month, there were 1,134 cases in the State and 447 cases in Bengaluru. The state-level vector-borne disease death audit committee recently confirmed four dengue deaths so far this year -- two in Udupi and one each in Chikkaballapura and Vijayapura.

Big pay disparity between Ayush, regular doctors

Practitioners rue massive gap in budget allocation for Ayush, allopathic medicine

NAMRATA SINDWANI @ Bengaluru

AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy) doctors in government hospitals of India continue to be underpaid, despite being eligible for pay equal to allopathic doctors.

Many doctors say they face many disparities other than salary differences.

"Ayush doctors face disparity at many levels; doctors get many benefits in a hospital from attending seminars to remunerations, and often they do not get to take advantage of those," said Dr Radhe Krishna, research officer at Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), Ministry of Ayush.

He also spoke about the huge gap in budget allocation for Ayush and allopathic medicine. Krishna added that although people are turning towards allopathy, many still prefer Ayurveda and homeopathy medication.

Aman (name changed), an allopathic doctor working in a government setup, said there is wage disparity at the government hospital. In a government setup, starting salary for allopathic doctors is around Rs 90,000. He urged that both be paid equally.

During Covid, Karnataka raised the salary of Ayush doctors to Rs 45,000 from Rs 25,000 for six months. Dr Simmi Dang, IBS Hospital, said that homeopathic doctors are not paid equally, but much less than allopathic doctors due to slow recovery time.

Dr Dang added that the recovery period for Ayush is much more diverse, despite it being slow, it's quite efficient and less harmful.

Equal pay entitlement

The Supreme Court had last year ruled that allopathy and Ayush doctors working at government hospitals are entitled to equal pay, and if there is discrimination in pay, then it's a violation of right to equality under Article 14.

Many reports had come where in Ayush doctors and ASHA workers in Karnataka were protesting for better pay. In a Public Health Centre (PHC), they were getting lower pay than the minimum wage.

Modern medicine and Ayush medicine are different streams, but their ultimate goal is the same. All doctors are professionals, and on the field nobody is inferior or superior.

The great help from MBBS, BDS, and AYUSH doctors made us fight against the pandemic and achieved success over it, said Dr Basil Issac of the Karnataka Central War Room.

FLOWER DRAW

A huge crowd converges at Lalbagh to visit the Independence Day Flower Show in Bengaluru on Sunday | VINOD KUMAR T

Analysis of 381 samples show Omicron domination

SHILPA P @Bengaluru

AT a time when the state, especially Bengaluru, is seeing a surge in Covid cases, the state health department has received genomic sequencing reports of 381 more RTPCR samples (whose CT levels were less than 25) sent in July-end. The INSACOG (Indian SARS Cov2 Genomics Consortium) has confirmed that omicron and its sub-lineages BA2, BA1.1.529 and BA5 continue to dominate. The good news, however, is that no new sub-lineages of Omicron are reported in the state. More than 90 per cent of these cases are from Bengaluru.

The presence of sublienages of Omicron has been confirmed in 355 samples. Omicron's sub-lineage BA2 has been confirmed in 141 samples, BA1.1.529 in 77 samples; BA5 in 133 samples and BA4 in four samples. Also, the presence of other variants of Covid, including ETA, kappa and pango, are confirmed in 26 samples.

In the whole of July, among 1,300 samples sent for genome sequencing, the presence of sub-lineages of omicron has been confirmed in 1,274 samples and they constitute 98 per cent of total cases reported in July. Omicron sublineage BA2 has been confirmed in 618 samples, constituting 48.50 per cent of total cases, BA1.1.529 in 351 samples (27.55 per cent), BA5 in 279 samples (21.89 per cent), BA4 in 21 samples (1.64 per cent) and BA3 in five samples (0.39 per cent). Also, the presence of other variants of Covid including ETA/kappa/pango were found in 26 samples, constituting 2 per cent of the cases.

At present, the Covid positivity rate is between 7.21 per cent and 10 per cent in Bengaluru city and Rural, Shivamogga, Dharwad, Bagalkot and Ballari, and the highest is in Dharwad.

The health department is testing at least 30,000 samples per day. As per the Central government's guidelines, they are testing only those who are symptomatic, even among the primary contacts.

Jolly drive gone wrong: Youth's body retrieved from lake in Anekal

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

A jolly drive proved fatal for a 20-year-old student after a car he was travelling in, fell into a lake in Anekal on the outskirts of the city.

The deceased has been identified as Vinyas, a resident of Kumaraswamy Layout. He was studying BBA in a private college.

Police said Vinyas, along with four of his friends who are also students, had gone for a jolly drive in an SUV on Friday morning. At around 11 am, the person driving the car lost control over the vehicle while driving on a mud road next to Bhujangadasa Lake in Chinnayanapalya of Anekal taluk. As a result, the car fell into the lake. While four of its occupants managed to escape to safety, Vinyas was nowhere to be found.

"The students had escaped without reporting the matter to the police and the car was lifted out of the lake following information from the villagers. A case was registered and the students were traced and that's when we got to know that another student had gone missing. On Sunday morning, a search was conducted with the help of the Fire and Emergency Services, and the body was found and retrieved. We have booked an accident case and are investigating the matter," the Bannerghatta police said.

CRIME PATROL

Girl, friend stabbed by her 'lover'

Madikeri: A love triangle ended with one person stabbing two others. The incident was reported at the tourist spot Nisargadhama in Kushalnagar of Kodagu. The accused, Vijaykumar (22) is a native of Koppa village and was working as a waiter at a restaurant in Kushalnagar. He is said to have been in love with a college girl from Madapatna and the two often spoke over phone. On Saturday, the victim girl had informed Vijaykumar that she was attending college. However, she was visiting Nisargadhama with another young boy from Sulekote village. Learning that his lover was with another boy, Vijaykumar confronted and stabbed them.

Police rescue 36 cattle

Mysuru: Yelwala police rescued 36 cattle which were illegally transported in a goods autorickshaw in the wee hours of Saturday. The police seized the vehicle and arrested the driver, Puneeth Kumar, a resident of Javari Koppal from Holenarasipura taluk in Hassan district. The police registered a case against Mohammad Shafi of Bairya village in KR Nagar and Salman Khan from Kikkeri village in KR Pet taluk in Mandya district. The police stopped the vehicle on Mysuru-Hunsur Road at around 4 am which was coming from Bairya to Mysuru through Sagara Katte. They found 34 buffalo calves and one buffalo. As many as seven calves had died, police said.

WHATSAPP CHAT STALLS FLIGHT AT M'LURU AIRPORT

ENS @ Mangaluru

SUSPICIOUS WhatsApp messages between a woman and a man forced airport security authorities to stop a flight from taking off at Mangalore International Airport. The incident occured on Sunday when a woman and man sent text messages regarding security matters. The duo was taken into custody by the airport officials.

The man was heading to Mumbai and the woman was supposed to travel to Bengaluru. The man was inside the flight and it was ready for take off and the girl sent a message "You are bomber". They spoke about causing danger to the security of the flight and a co-passenger observed it and informed the air-hostess and the pilot. The pilot then informed ATC and the flight was stopped from taking off.

The airport security officials rushed inside the flight and shifted the passengers from the flight and checked for any security issue. The flight was also sent to Isolation Bay and the duo were subjected to questioning. The duo agreed that they were just joking. Both of them hail from Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh. The man was supposed to join a company in Mumbai and the woman is pursuing higher education in Bengaluru. The duo has been handed over to Bajpe police. The same flight left for Mumbai after a six-hour delay at 4 pm. There were 186 passengers.

Data hurdle: ASHA workers lose perks

NAMRATA SINDWANI @ Bengaluru

ACCREDITED Social Health Activists (ASHA) workers lack technical knowledge to efficiently put data entries online, which causes them to lose the incentives they earn. The tablets provided by BBMP for filing entries are also not being used, as ASHA workers cannot afford to pay for data connection for both tablets and their mobile phones.

Usha, an ASHA worker from Vibhutipura, said she files all entries on her phone and finds it inconvenient to put up each entry separately. Often, with poor internet connection, she tends to lose it and has to repeat the process again. She had received a tablet from BBMP but did not use it as she couldn't afford to recharge her phone and the tab for an internet connection every month.

Another ASHA worker, Balakrishnamma, complained that she faces network issues or the portal does not open, and finds it difficult to put the entries on the online portal. She explained that sometimes it is a phone issue, or incorrect data entry from her end or internet issue, due to which she has to redo the whole process. On more training for ASHA workers, Manjula N Rao, BBMP health officer, suggested an assistive data entry system or centres providing essential knowledge and support for workers facing inconveniences.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Client is willing to purchase the immoveable property described in the Schedule ("**Schedule Property**") from **Mrs. G K Krupa**, Owner. Public is notified that any person having any right, title, claim or interest in the Schedule Property or any objection/s of any manner whatsoever is hereby called upon to notify the undersigned with supporting documents within **7 (Seven) days** from the date of publication of this notice. If no such claim is received, it would be deemed that the Owner has clear and marketable title to the Schedule Property and that no other person/s has any claim whatsoever, over the Schedule Property or claim/s if any, will be deemed to have been waived.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing No. 20, Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike old PID No. 99-138-20, New PID No. 035-W0105-4-2, measuring East to West 91 feet and North to South 50 feet admeasuring to 4550 Sq. feet, situated at **CPRI Compound backside layout, Geddalahalli Village, RMV II Stage, Bangalore,** Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike Old ward No. 99, New Ward No.35, and bounded on the:

East by : Purva Atria Apartments;
West by : Road;
North by : Property bearing No. 99-138-3
South by : Sanjeev's Property;

Gayathri C Sheelvant Advocate,
No. E106, NR Windgates, Chokkanahalli, Bangalore –560064 Tel. No. 9611836692
Place : Bangalore **Date : 14.08.2022**

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my client is intending to buy the schedule property from Sri. P. N. Gopi S/o late Narayan, aged about 52 years, residing at No.143, Broadway Road, Shivajinagar, Bangalore-560051.

Any person having any claim over the schedule property may lodge their objections or claims in writing with all supporting documentary evidence by registered post with regard to such claim with the undersigned within 7 (seven) days hereof, failing which my client shall proceed to finalize and conclude the sale transaction on the basis that there is no claim. Any claim lodged thereafter will not be entertained by my client.

SCHEDULE

All that piece & parcel of residential property bearing Corporation Quarters No.143, Broadway Road, Shivajinagar, Ward No.92, Bangalore now called as Municipal New No.143 (old No.1), HazarathKambal Pasha Road, Bangalore, Old Ward No.79, Shivajinagar, now within the administrative jurisdiction of BBMP having PID No.79-120-143, measuring East to West 16 feet, North to South 43 feet in total measuring 688 sq.ft., consisting of building with RCC roofed measuring 600 sq.ft. with all civil amenities and bounded on;

East by : Police Station, West by : Private Property, North by : Government School, South by : Road.

Suhaib Fazeel Madar, Advocate
No.51, 3rd 'A' Cross,
Lingarajapuram, Bangalore-560084.
M: 9945624111

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Client is willing to purchase the immoveable property described in the Schedule ("**Schedule Property**") from **Mrs. G K Hema,** Owner. Public is notified that any person having any right, title, claim or interest in the Schedule Property or any objection/s of any manner whatsoever is hereby called upon to notify the undersigned with supporting documents within **7 (Seven) days** from the date of publication of this notice. If no such claim is received, it would be deemed that the Owner has clear and marketable title to the Schedule Property and that no other person/s has any claim whatsoever, over the Schedule Property or claim/s if any, will be deemed to have been waived.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing No. 3, Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike old PID No. 99-138-3, New PID No. 035-W0105-4-1, measuring East to West 90.5 feet and North to South 50 feet admeasuring to 4525 Sq. feet, situated at **CPRI Compound backside layout, Geddalahalli Village, RMV II Stage, Bangalore,** Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike Old ward No. 99, New Ward No.35, and bounded on the:

East by : Purva Atria Apartments;
West by : Road;
North by : Property bearing No. 99-138-19
South by : Property bearing No. 99-138-20

Gayathri C Sheelvant Advocate,
No. E106, NR Windgates, Chokkanahalli, Bangalore –560064 Tel. No. 9611836692
Place : Bangalore **Date : 14.08.2022**

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that my client is intending to purchase the Schedule Property mentioned hereunder from **Dr. FOUZIA SULTANA.** W/o. Late Mr. Mohammed Younus Hospur Shaikh, Residing at No.5A/7, Pemme Gowda Road, J.C.Nagar, Bengaluru 560 006. Any person/s objecting for the proposed purchase or are having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the Schedule Property are hereby called upon to file their objections/claims whatsoever along with documentary proof within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice with the under mentioned advocate failing which, my client shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Portion of property bearing Site Nos.275 & 274 (Northern Portion), carved out of converted Survey No.11/10, converted from Agricultural to Non-Agricultural purposes, vide its Order No.B.Dis/ALN/SR(S) 25/1994-95, Dated: 25.08.1994, by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, situated at Thanisandra Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, coming under the limits of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike being Portion of Property No.11/10/274/275, Telecom Layout, Dr. SRK Nagar Post, Thanisandra, Ward No.06, Bangalore, measuring East to West: 60 feet and North to South: 25 feet in all measuring 1500 sq. feet, and bounded on the ;

East by : Site Nos.268 and 269,
West by : Road,
North by : Site No.276
South by: Remaining portion of Site No.275 & 274, measuring East to West: 60 feet and North to South: 30 feet sold to Mr. Syed Rafi Ahmed and then remaining Southern Portion of Site No.274.

UNNIKRISHNAN M.
Advocate
No. 46, 1st A Cross, AECS Layout, (Near ISRO) RMV II stage, Bangalore-560 094.

TENDER CALL NOTICE

KK-115: Sealed tenders are invited from reputed , Firms/ Authorized Dealers/OEM for supply of Crawler Mounted Multipurpose Drill Rig & Accessories for Orissa School of Mining Engineering, Keonjhar which must reach this office latest by 14.09.2022 as per programme and tender documents released in our website: www.osme.co.in

Sd/- Principal
OSME, Keonjhar
OIPR- 30023/11/0001/2223

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
EDUCATION & WELFARE INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, VIJAYAWADA

e-procurement Tender Notice

NIT No: 88 to 93/MD/APEWIDC/VJA/2022-23, Dated: 12.08.2022

NIT No: 88 to 93 downloading commencement on 17.08.2022 and closing date may be viewed in e-procurement.gov.in

1. Tenders are invited for civil works (06 Nos) with Estimate cost ranging from Rs.2.33 Crores to Rs.100.00 Crores in West Godavari, Guntur, YSR Kadapa and Ananthapuram Districts

Further details may be viewed at **http://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in** Contact No.**08645 295758.**

Note: 1. Changes / amendment if any will only be communicated through above e-procurement platform.

2. Reverse auction applicable as per G.O.Ms.No.67, dated 16.08.2019 of Water Resources (Reforms) Department and G.O No:79, Dated: 25.08.2020 of the Finance (HR.V-TFR) Dept.

Sd/- Managing Director, APEWIDC, Vijayawada

QuoteExpress **IF YOU'RE GOING THROUGH HELL, KEEP GOING** › WINSTON CHURCHILL

IN THE COURT OF IX ADDITIONAL cm, CIVIL JUDGE AT BANGALORE
O.S. No. 9669/2015 (C.C.H No.5)
PLAINTIFFS: M/s MAKAM NARANAPPA SONS, A Registered Partnership, Having its Office at No.133/3, A.S.K. Market, Lakkur Complex, Avenue Road Bangalore-560 002 Represented by its partner Sri. M.N. RADHAKRISHNA, aged about 76 years S/o late Makam Naranappa & ANOTHER

-V/s-

Sri.VARADARAJ RAMAIAH @ VARDI RAMAIAH, aged about 49 years, S/o late.M.Ramaiah, R/at No.22/2, 18th Cross, 33rd Main Road, J.P.Nagar 6th Phase, Bangalore-560 078. Since Dead, represented by his LR's

a. Smt.KAVITHA KIRAN.D, aged about 44 years, W/o late.Varadaraj Ramaiah @ Vardi Ramaiah, b. Sri. ARYAMAN .V, aged about 5 years S/o late.Varadaraj Ramaiah @ Vardi Ramaiah, Since Minor, Represented by his mother/Natural Guardian, Smt. KAVITHA KIRAN.D, aged about 44 years, W/o late.Varadaraj Ramaiah @ Vardi Ramaiah, Both are R/at No.22/2, 18th Cross, 33rd Main Road, J.P.Nagar, 6th Phase, Bangalore-560 078. Also at, No.659, 11th Main Road, Jayanagar 4th Block, Bangalore-560011.

-2-

SUIT SUMMONS FOR SERVICE UNDER ORDER V RULE 20 TO THE DECEASED DEFENDANT LR'S

To, a. Smt.KAVITHA KIRAN.D, aged about 44 years, W/o late.Varadaraj Ramaiah @ Vardi Ramaiah, b. Sri.ARYAMAN.V, aged about 5 years, S/o late.Varadaraj Ramaiah @ Vardi Ramaiah, Since Minor, Represented by his mother/Natural Guardian Smt.KAVITHA KIRAN.D, aged about 44 years, W/o late.Varadaraj Ramaiah @ Vardi Ramaiah, Both are R/at No.22/2, 18th Cross, 33rd Main Road, J.P.Nagar, 6th Phase, Bangalore-560 078. Also at, No.659, 11th Main Road, Jayanagar 4th Block, Bangalore-560 011.

WHEREAS the Plaintiffs above named have filed the above suit for Specific Performance of the Registered Agreement of Sale dated 17-06-2013, registered as Document No.674/2013-14 of Book-I, stored in CD No. SHVD-164, in the office of Sub-Registrar, Shivajinalga, Bangalore. The Original Defendant died on 01-09-2018 and you have been brought as LR's of the deceased Defendant on Record.

'A' SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing present Municipal No. 10, PID No. 90-36-10, Old No.1, situated at John Armstrong Road, Richards Town, Ward No.90, Bangalore, measuring East to West: 45 feet 1 inch, North to South: 119 feet 10 inch, bounded on the **East by:** Property belongs to Raghavappa/Venkataram, **West by:** Property of T. Gnanamba, **North by:** Road, **South by:** Conservancy Lane.

'B' SCHEDULE

1238 square feet undivided share in the land of 'A' schedule property,

'C' SCHEDULE

Item No1: Residential flat privately bearing No.003 in the ground floor of 'PETALS APARTMENTS' bearing present Municipal No.10/3, PID No.90-36-10/3, situated at John Armstrong Road, Richards Town, Ward No.90, Bangalore, measuring super built up area of 1300 square feet and one car parking, together with common right in the common areas, common passages, staircase, lift, borewell, generator, servant quarters etc.,

Item No.2: Residential flat privately bearing No.103 in the first floor of PETALS APARTMENTS' bearing present Municipal No.10/6, PID No.90-36-10/6 situated at John Armstrong Road, Richards Town, Ward No.90, Bangalore, measuring super built up area of 1300 square feet and one car parking, together with common right in the common areas, common passages, staircase, lift, borewell, generator, servant quarters etc.,

WHEREAS in the above Case, you are hereby Summoned to appear in this Court in Person or by a Pleader on **06-09-2022** at 11.00 am to answer the same failing which the case will be disposed of on Ex-Parte.

Given under my hand and the seal of the court on is fps-1161a_

Advocate for Plaintiffs:
MAKAM NAGARAJA GUPTA
MAKAM LAW ASSOCIATES,
No.429-430, Second Floor, Alankar Pearl Plaza, K.G.Road Bangalore - 09.

WHEN BLOOD WAS SPILT IN VIDURASHWATHA

V VELAYUDHAM @ Kolar

VERY few moments in the history of our subcontinent are as repulsive as the infamous Jallianwala Bagh massacre, where over 500 peaceful protesters were shot dead by the British police. Similar is the tragic story that happened at Vidurashwatha in Gauribidanur taluk of Chikkaballapur district.

On April 25, 1938, a group of villagers who had come together at Vidurashwatha village to hoist the national flag were fired upon by the police, killing more than 32 and injuring several others. From then, Vidurashwatha got the monicker 'Jallianwala Bagh of South India'.

The villagers had gathered to defy the order of the British government that had made hoisting the flag a crime. After the police firing, there was widespread outrage and several national leaders, including Mahatma Gandhi and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, visited the village.

A memorial, Veera Soudha, was built in honour of the martyred freedom fighters next to the banks of the Uttara Pinakini river. The memorial provides an insight into the freedom movement and stands as an inspiration to the younger generation.

Chikkaballapur Deputy Commissioner NM Nagaraj said Vidurashwatha, Veera Soudha and its surrounding have been maintained well and there is round-the-clock security. Guides too are stationed at Veera Soudha to give people a glimpse of history.

The memorial at Vidurashwatha

Nagaraj said, "We have many ideas to make the memorial an important educational spot. The young generation should compulsorily visit the place which will throw a light on the role of freedom fighters here."

The mythology has it that after the Kurukshetra War, Vidhura, who was a courtier in the kingdom of Dhritarashtra, travelled across the subcontinent to attain salvation, based on the advice of Lord Krishna. He arrived at this village and stayed at the ashram of Maithreya. One day, when he was meditating on the banks of the Uttara Pinakini river, he saw a sapling of Ashwatha or peepul sapling floating in the river. He planted the sapling and worshipped it as Ashwatha tree is believed to represent Lords Brahma, Vishnu and Maheshwara. The name of the village is the commingling of Vidhura and Ashwatha.

Over 10,000 people took part in the flag-hoisting ceremony at Shivapura on April 9, 1938, where a memorial - Shivapura Soudha - stands today | FILE

Shivapura led the fight for self-governance

KARTHIK KK @ Mandya

IT was 84 years ago that Shivapura, a small village near Maddur in Mandya district, became the talking point of the country's nationalist movement, as it started a peaceful agitation to attain the goal of self-governance and hoisted the flag, defying arrests.

The flag was flown on April 9, 1938 and immediately after, the freedom fighters were arrested by the Mysore police as flag-hoisting was banned by the British. Soon, a team of Congressmen met and chalked out various programmes to protest. The agitation was joined by farmers and villagers from different parts of the region, turning it into a larger movement.

Though the majority of those who took part in the agitation are no more, senior citizens, who were told about the Shivapura Satyagraha, said the contributions of Thirumale Gowda were immense as he gave away his nine acres of land to hoist the flag. He also allowed the activists to use his house as the office and freed up his bungalow to accommodate a large number of women and children who had come from different parts of the state. Over 10,000 people took part in the flag-hoisting ceremony, shouting the slogan, Ene barali oggattirali (Come what may, let us be united), which became popular.

> it was the Congress convention that inspired many to hold a meeting in the region. Several places, including Srirangapatna and Badnavalu near Nanjangud, were considered, but finally, the organisers settled on Shivapura
>
> Veeranna, a resident of Maddur

Veeranna, a resident of Maddur, said it was the Congress convention that inspired many to hold a meeting in the region. Several places, including Srirangapatna and Badnavalu near Nanjangud, were considered, but finally, the organisers settled on Shivapura because of the enthusiastic support extended by people like Thirumale Gowda and Veeranna Gowda.

An arecanut tree stump, which was 60 ft tall, was chosen as the flagpole and it was chopped and transported on a bullock cart to the venue. Though the initial plan was to hoist the flag for three days, a large number of policemen who had gathered at the spot did not allow it and detained most of the freedom fighters.

Women and children took turns to sit around the flag to prevent the police from bringing it down. To commemorate the historic event, the Shivapura Soudha, which is next to the Bengaluru-Mysuru Highway, was inaugurated in 1979.

Salt of the earth leaders gave boost to movement

SUBHASH CHANDRA NS @ Karwar

THE Salt Satyagraha of Ankola in 1929 was not just successful, but also inspired many others across the state to replicate the movement. The success was because of the participation of local leaders and thousands of people who gathered at Ankola to continue the protest against the decision of the British to tax a commonly used item like salt.

When Mahatma Gandhi gave a call for the Dandi March or Salt Satyagraha the then Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee started searching for an ideal place to hold a similar satyagraha locally. In 1929, then senior Congress leader Hanumanth Rao Kaujalgi suggested Ankola in the then North Canara district. In December 1929, many leaders, including Kaujalgi, Kaka Karkhanis, Ranganath Diwakar, DP Karmakar and others, went to every village and inspired people to participate in the Satyagraha, in response to a call by the Mahatma to reach the freedom movement to every rural area.

Policemen confront the Salt Satyagrahis at Ankola in 1929 | FILE

Just before the event, Kaujalgi, Kaka Karkhanis and other leaders were arrested and the building they were staying in was sealed. But that did not deter the spirit of other local leaders. Shamrao Shenoy invited the leaders to stay at a pandal he had put up for a marriage in the house.

Jayaramacharya, who hailed from Koppal, sang keerthanas, infusing the nationalistic pride among people who were already motivated by the likes of Habibullah of Peshawar, Gangadhar Deshpande, Majli and others.

The Satyagraha was scheduled for April 6, 1930 -- the day the inhuman Jallianwala Bagh massacre happened. A massive crowd of over 35,000 people participated in the movement. As it was against taxing a common commodity like salt by the British, various speakers at the gathering urged people not to buy salt from the shops. The agitators brought water from the sea backwaters, boiled it and made salt as a form of protest. The first packet of salt was purchased by local merchant Devu Honappa by paying Rs 30, which was a princely sum then.

The same evening, there was a rally at Gandhi Maidan in Ankola, where the leaders called upon people to boycott products taxed by the British. The police arrested many leaders, but the movement had already made its impact.

Congress plenary was a gamechanger for India

NAUSHAD BIJAPUR @ Belagavi

AZADI Ka Amrit Mahotsav is a special occasion for the people of Belagavi for many reasons. The region boasts of having produced several freedom fighters, besides holding the three-day 39th Plenary Session of the Indian National Congress, from December 26, 1924.

The plenary was a significant event in the nation's history, and motivated youth to take active part in the freedom struggle. Presided over by Mahatma Gandhi, the convention was attended by many leaders, including Pandit Nehru, Sarojini Naidu, Abdul Gaffar Khan, Moulana Azad and Gangadhar Rao Deshpande.

Businessman and journalist Subhash Kulkarni, son of renowned freedom fighter late R H Kulkarni, recalls what his father told him, "Freedom fighters from Dharwad, Belagavi, Bijapur, Ankola, Bengaluru and Mysuru had been putting pressure on Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru, who was Congress secretary, to hold the 39th Congress Plenary in their respective areas, but Gangadhar Rao Deshpande, freedom fighter from Belagavi, convinced Gandhiji to hold it in Belagavi."

Mahatma Gandhi at 39th Plenary Session of the INC in Belagavi in 1924 | FILE

Noted playwright D S Chougale says the plenary had inspired a large number of youth to join the freedom movement in the 1930s and 1940s. The plenary's impact on the youth can still be felt, with a large number of youngsters joining the Indian Army every year.

According to sources, the Belgaum plenary also gave a stimulus to the political aspirations of Kannadigas. The venue of the convention, at Tilakwadi falls, was just 1km from Belgaum railway station. Thousands of people, including Gandhi, walked to the venue. The three-day session saw the Swaraj Party return to the Congress fold.

To keep memories of the plenary alive, the government built Veera Soudha at the venue. A well, built to provide drinking water to the guests, was known as the 'Congress well', and was rejuvenated. It has become one of the major water sources for people living in the vicinity.

FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLED

RAMACHANDRA V GUNARI @ Shivamogga

A bell tied inside Sri Veerabhadreshwara Swamy Temple in Isuru village of Shikaripura taluk, was witness to the villagers' struggle for independence, and its sonorous ring gave them direction to organise their forces against the British.

Mahatma Gandhi's Quit India movement call on August 8, 1942, ignited the spark of defiance among the villagers of Isuru. They came out with a strong slogan, 'Esuru Kottaru.., Isuru Bideyu' (We don't leave Isuru among many villages) and started a peaceful movement.

According to Gazetteer of India, from August 17, 1942, onwards, the villagers showed great courage and defiance. Prabhat Pheri (processions) were carried out around the village every day, with slogans like 'Do not pay taxes', 'Cut down teak trees and wires', 'Burn account books of Gaudas and Shanbhogues'. On September 25, when the village officer came for collection of assessment and preparation of pahani, their registers were seized by village youths. The next day, the villagers put up a signboard which declared that theirs was a 'free village' and set up a parallel government of youngsters.

Freedom fighter late Huchharayappa inside Sri Veerabhadreshwara Swamy temple in Isuru village of Shikaripura taluk | FILE

On September 28, 1942, when amaldar Channa Krishnaiah and inspector Kenchegowda came to the village, the villagers insisted that the officers wear the Gandhi cap. A scuffle ensued, and the villagers killed both the officers.

Retired KAS officer H Baligar told The New Indian Express that the ring of the bell gave an indication to the revolutionaries. "A single ring was a hint that there was no significant development, and was a call for a routine meeting. When the bell was rung twice, it was a call for a secret meeting, three rings were to alert the villagers to assemble immediately, as it was an emergency. Four rings was an alarm to congregate immediately with weapons," said Baligar.

The killing of the amaldar and police inspector prompted the British to invade Isuru and thrash the villagers. They filed harsh cases, burnt houses and even assaulted women. They seized the village and arrested freedom fighters. Of them, Gurappa, Jinahalli Mallappa, Suryanarayanachar, Badakalli Halappa and Goudru Shankarappa were hanged on April 6, 7 and 8, 1943. These five revolutionaries were below 30 years of age. Women fighters Halamma, Siddamma and Parvathamma were sentenced to life imprisonment, and others were awarded rigorous imprisonment.

On investigation, police found that the temple bell sent out crucial messages. They confiscated it and presented it before a court in Sagar as witness.

VOICES OF FREEDOM

"After many efforts and sacrifices, India was able to gain Independence. The democratic and electoral processes that were followed initially has changed overtime. In 1952, election expenses was to the tune of Rs 3,000, for which the public used to come foward and contribute wholeheartedly. Now, political leaders are spending crores and coming to power."

KT Chandu, 92
Maddur

"In July 1947, as many as 46 freedom fighters, including me, who were travelling by train from Bengaluru to meet Mahatma Gandhi in Mysuru, were arrested near Mandya, as we raised slogans against the British government. We were then sent to jail in Srirangapatna, and we were released after a month, once India became Independent. I am happy to celebrate 75 years of Indian Independence, and the progress made by country in all these years. But at the same time, although the country got Independence with so much of struggle by so many of us, I am also very sad to see the amount of corruption prevailing in the country. The youth should be honest and strive towards building a corruption-free country."

Gopal M, 93
Melkote

"The 75th year celebration is an important milestone and an occasion to look back to assess how much we have progressed and to plan what should be achieved in the coming years. However, all have put their selfishness first and the country's development secondary."

Krishnarao Kulkarni, 96
Hubballi

"I feel sad looking at the present situation of our country and its politics. People should think twice before criticising any individual or a party. We are all one and should not have discrimination among ourselves. We may have differences of opinion among ourselves. However, all our aim should be to take the country to greater heights."

Mattara Vittala Kini, 94
Mangaluru

IN TRUE SPIRIT

Officials trek miles to reach Tricolour to tribal hamlets

Forest officials from Kumbarwada division of Kali Tiger Reserve deliver the Tricolour to villagers at Hapkarni in Joida Taluk | EXPRESS

AMIT S UPADHYE @ Joida

EIGHTY-year-old Babu, living in a remote tribal hamlet in Joida taluk, had not seen the Tricolour for many years. He was surprised when a team of panchayat members came knocking on his door with the Tricolour. He was not alone in receiving the national flag this year. Hundreds of such houses sparsely distributed deep inside the jungles have the flags fluttering, thanks to the effort of officials.

Officials from panchayats and Karnataka Forest Department waded though streams amid heavy rain and walked through leech-infested tracks to ensure that the Tricolour reached the last house. Joida taluk has many small villages that do not have schools or government offices. Also, as many elders here neither venture out nor do they have televisions at home, they have not seen the Tricolour in a while.

The Bazarkung Panchayat is one of the largest panchayats with hundreds of houses located in different corners of the forest. The panchayat members prepared a detailed plan a week before the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign and started delivering the flags. Panchayat members, including from the opposition, joined hands in reaching the hamlets. "As the planning for the campaign started early, we could reach the houses that are sometimes not accessible during rain. A team had to return from a hamlet near Diggi village as the stream was overflowing. We delivered the flag two days later when the water receded," said a Panchayat member.

The staff of Kumbarwada wildlife division in Kali Tiger Reserve too helped. RFO Shashidhar Patil said the forest staff deployed at anti-poaching camps ensured that the flags reached the hamlets. "We had heard about hoisting the national flag in front of our houses but we were not expecting that people will come and deliver the flags. We will save the flags for next year," said a villager staying near Diggi.

In a major relief for Ernakulam MP Hibi Eden, the CBI has concluded that there is no conclusive evidence against him in the sexual harassment complaint lodged by the woman who is an accused in the solar scam. The CBI submitted a report to the CBI court in Thiruvananthapuram last week

BSY condemns disrespect to Savarkar flex, mum on Tipu poster

DKS slams BJP govt, says people of all communities fought for country's freedom

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru, Shivamogga

A political scuffle has broken out over posters of Tipu Sultan and Veer Savarkar put up for Independence Day celebrations, with miscreants damaging flexes of the erstwhile ruler and Hindu ideologue, and sparking a sharp reaction from the Congress.

"The cutout of freedom fighter Tipu Sultan was destroyed by miscreants. Tipu's Palace is under the Archaeological department. As part of Independence Day celebrations, special decorations are being put up and Tipu's contribution to the Freedom Movement is well known. The Central government is paying homage to those who fought for the freedom of the country, but it is disheartening to see such bigotry," KPCC president DK Shivakumar said.

On the BJP's allegation that Tipu Sultan was being honoured to appease minorities, Shivakumar said, "People of all communities fought for freedom. Their idea was to bring freedom to the country, and not about caste and religion."

Meanwhile, former CM B S Yediyurappa, when asked about Tipu Sultan's poster, said, "I don't want to discuss the incident. I would like to comment only about the Savarkar incident. I will comment after I find out the facts."

He was responding to the defacing of a portrait of Veer Savarkar on Saturday. Some youths had objected to Savarkar's portrait being kept among freedom fighters at an exhibition organised by BJP-ruled Shivamogga City Corporation. They alleged that the portrait of Mahatma Gandhi was of small size while the portrait of Savarkar was kept in the gallery, and portraits of Muslim freedom fighters like Abul Kalam Azad had been omitted.

After the incident, BJP workers staged a protest and lodged a police complaint against the youths. Later, some youths from a Hindutva organisation tore up a poster of Tipu Sultan put up by the Karnataka Congress at Hudson Circle in Bengaluru.

Yediyurappa told reporters at his residence here on Sunday that the youths had committed an unforgivable offence by removing Savarkar's portrait. "Police have already arrested the accused. The world celebrates Savarkar but this incident has pained everyone. I request the people to maintain peace and not take law into their hands," he said.

PATRIOTISM IN JUMBO SIZE

An elephant carries the National Flag at Tirupati on the eve of the 75th Independence Day on Sunday | MADHAV K

Congress Legislature Party leader and former chief minister Siddaramaiah at a Youth Congress rally in Bengaluru on Sunday | EXPRESS

1L likely to attend Cong 'Freedom Walk' today

ENS @ Bengaluru

THE Karnataka unit of the Congress, in an apparent attempt to keep the spirit of its rank and file high ahead of the 2023 Assembly elections, is all set to mark the 75th anniversary of India's Independence by holding a massive rally in Bengaluru on Monday.

Titled 'Freedom Walk', the 7.5-km rally will commence at 2 pm from Krantiveera Sangolli Rayanna Railway Station and end at the National College Grounds in Basavanagudi. Over 1 lakh people are expected to take part.

According to political pundits, the Grand Old Party seems to be utilising every opportunity to win the 2023 elections and has been holding a series of public meetings and rallies. Recently, a huge public gathering to celebrate former CM Siddaramaiah's 75th birthday was held in Davanagere which was attended by senior party leader and Wayanad MP Rahul Gandhi. Similar padayatras were taken out by the Congress in all 224 Assembly constituencies.

KPCC president DK Shivakumar, under whose leadership the 'Freedom Walk' has been organised, had expected AICC leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra to attend the rally. Priyanka, however, will be giving the rally a miss after testing positive for Covid-19. When the rally culminates at 5 pm at the National College Grounds, party leaders are likely to deliver speeches, sources said. Later, renowned playback singer Hariharan will enthral the audience with his songs. Organisers have identified seven points on the outskirts of Bengaluru where participants from across the state can alight and take Metro trains to reach the venues.

NAMMA METRO EXPECTS RS 1 CRORE REVENUE

Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Ltd is expected to earn a reven-ue of Rs 1 crore on Monday, all thanks to the Congress' 'Freedom Walk'. KPCC has already paid Rs 35 lakh to buy 50,000 tickets to be distributed to participants. "We have requested BMRCL to allow those who do not have tickets as the KPCC will pay against their travel following a head count," said KPCC working president Salim Ahmed.

Audio leak: Somashekhar hits back at Madhu Swamy

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru, Mysuru

IN response to an audio leak in which Karnataka Cabinet minister JC Madhu Swamy is heard making some uncharitable statements about Cooperation Minister Somashekar not addressing farmers' concerns, Somashekhar has hit back. In the audio, Madhu Swamy said the Bharatiya Janata Party government was not functioning as a government but was only being managed, and that he too was victimised. Madhuswamy was making this statement in response to a farmer who said farmers' concerns were not being addressed. Somashekhar hit back at Madhu Swamy saying, "That may be in his minor irrigation department. All other departments are doing fine." he said. He further said that all major decisions taken during the cabinet meeting held every week is briefed to the media by Madhu Swamy. "The government is running successfully under Chief Ministrer Basavaraj Bommai's leadership and even during BS Yediyurappa's leadership. There is no need to point at me," said Somashekhar, in response to minister Madhu Swamy's comment. Somashekhar was visibly irked when Madhu Swamy took his name in the leaked audio, alleging that the cooperation minister had not passed several files to him. "Madhu Swamy has accused me of not doing works suggested by him. One should not clear projects bypassing rules and regulations. We should not target a single person and punish him. Instead, an inquiry should be held, and if found guilty, action must be initiated."

Partition has turned India, Pakistan into sorrowful countries: BJP leader

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

"THE country was divided. India and Pakistan are not at peace after the Partition which was the result of the betrayal of Jawaharlal Nehru. Today, both have become great, sorrowful countries," said BJP General Secretary N Ravikumar on Sunday, referring to the controversy over leaving out Nehru's image from a state government-sponsored advertisement on the 75th year of India's Independence.

Congress media cell head and MLA Priyank Kharge countered him, saying, "Please get your information from reading reliable history textbooks and not from Whatsapp forwards."

Ravikumar, after inspecting the preparations for Independence Day celebrations at Kanteerava Stadium, said, "BJP has decided to celebrate the 75th year of Independence this year with great enthusiasm and more than 75 lakh national flags have been distributed. The celebrations are being held at the booth and state capital level."

He said Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai inaugurated an exhibit on the dark history of Partition at the party's state office on Sunday evening. "On Monday, more than 50,000 people from all wards of Bengaluru will arrive at the stadium in their vehicles, shouting slogans. They will carry portraits of freedom fighters."

Congress said it is being done to stoke hatred.

On the tight police bandobast at Chamarajpet Idgah Maidan, Ravikumar said, "We all know who is responsible for this and why there is a tight bandobast for hoisting the national flag. Congress has to answer to this."

Yediyurappa wants Priyank arrested for 'disrespecting women'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Shivamogga, Bengaluru

SENIOR BJP leader and former Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa on Sunday hit out at former minister and Congress MLA Priyank Kharge for his remarks suggesting that "women have to sleep with someone to get government jobs in Karnataka."

Speaking to mediapersons at his residence in Shivamogga, Yediyurappa demanded that Priyank be arrested for "disrespecting women".

Priyanka had recently stirred a controversy by saying that "men have to bribe to get government jobs" and "women have to give sexual favours for getting jobs."

Earlier, Union Minister Pralhad Joshi had demanded that Priyank apologise for the statement. "Priyank has committed an unforgivable offence. Legal action should be taken against him. The people of the state should condemn him for insolence. The insult to women cannot be forgiven. He should be arrested," Yediyurappa said.

Yediyurappa said that the Janotsava conventions that the BJP has planned will be a forum to apprise the people of the people-friendly programmes of the Basavaraj Bommai government. "The Congress is not digesting the same and hence has indulged in spreading rumours. Those who are dreaming of becoming the CM in Congress will be disappointed as BJP will retain power. Congress will realise the power of BJP when the party launches a statewide tour from August 21," he said.

Priyank, responding to Yediyurappa's statement said, "I have mirrored the serious concerns raised by common people who have no one to turn to when exploited. If my language has been wrong or offensive it doesn't take away the fact that sexual harassment has been spoken about. When people are talking about casting couch,' why should I not speak of women who have been victimised. The government needs to address the concerns raised instead of talking of arresting me. A case of a woman PSI candidate who alleged that an SP had sought sexual favours for recruitment is known to many."

Priyank has committed an unforgivable offence. Legal action should be taken against him. The people of the state should condemn him. The insult to women cannot be forgiven— BS Yediyurappa, former CM

ELSEWHERE IN SOUTH

60K devotees offer prayers at Tirumala

TIRUMALA: Serpentine queues of pilgrims in Tirumala continued on Sunday. The hill town is swarmed by devotees from across the country with the weekend rush coupled with a series of festive holidays. In spite of TTD's appeal to parents of young children and elderly persons to defer their pilgrimage to Tirumala due to heavy rush, thousands of people from these categories came for darshan. TTD Vigilance and Police sleuths ensured that there is no stampede in queue lines. According to TTD officials, by 6 pm Sunday itself, nearly 60,000 pilgrims had Darshan of Sri Venkateswara Swamy. ENS

3 new ant species found in W Ghats

KOCHI: Researchers of the Travancore History Society's (TNHS) Ant Research Group have discovered three new ant species. The species from the genera Proceratium Roger, 1863, Zasphinctus Wheeler, 1918 and Vollenhovia Mayr, 1865, were found in the Western Ghats. Dr Kalesh Sadasivan and Manoj Karipakaran, who led the team, said this is the first report of Proceratium and Zasphinctus from peninsular India and the first record of Vollenhovia from the Western Ghats mountain range proper. All three species are endemic to the Western Ghats and are confined to microclimates in the tropical evergreen forests of Kerala. ENS

Jaleel's remarks on Kashmir unacceptable: Kerala Guv Arif

T'PURAM: Kerala Governor Arif Mohammed Khan on Sunday termed as "unacceptable" MLA and former minister K T Jaleel's controversial Facebook post on Kashmir. Khan, who was speaking to reporters on the sidelines of an event in Thiruvananthapuram, wondered whether such comments were made 'after going through some literature' or 'out of ignorance'. "I feel very sorry about such type of comments," Khan said. MLA and former minister A C Moideen, who led the committee of legislators for the trip to Kashmir, refused to defend Jaleel and backed CPM's stance. The party had distanced itself from Jaleel's statement. "The party I represent has a very clear opinion on the remarks made on Kashmir. We adopt a stance that befits the unity and integrity of the country," Moideen said. Jaleel cut short his programmes in Delhi and rushed to Kerala in the early hours of Sunday amid reports that the Delhi police had booked him for treason. He refused to speak more on the matter, instead maintaining that his words were misinterpreted. ENS

MAIL STORY

As India turns 75, PIN code turns 50

ANUJA SUSAN VARGHESE @Kochi

THE 75th anniversary of India's Independence that would be celebrated on Monday is extra special for the India Post. For the day is also when the pincode – that six-digit combination of numbers on every address – turns 50.

Though the world has embraced the internet and almost everything is online, the Postal Index Number, or PIN, remains relevant 50 years since its launch on August 15, 1972. Be it waiting for the delivery of something one bought via an app or sending a mail via post, the six digits that pinpoint the exact location of one's post office anywhere in the country continue to be the most useful piece of information on any address. "Pincode is extremely relevant even today. Without an accurate pincode, a postman or delivery person would have no clue where to deliver a letter or a package. In fact, providing inaccurate or confusing pincodes is one of the main reasons a mail or package is delayed," said Geethakumari N, retired postmaster of Kozhenchery.

K K Devis, Director of Postal Services (Headquarters), Kerala, is credited with taking several steps to popularise pincodes among people. It were these efforts to educate the public about the importance of pincodes and different aspects of letters that paved way for the formation of PIN Pals Club. The club, which has over 600 members now, aims to popularise pincodes in the country.

The six-digit pincode speeds up the process of identifying a particular location The first digit of a pincode indicates the region, the second sub region and the third is for the revenue district. The last three digits pinpoint the delivery post office. India has nine PIN regions. While the first eight are geographical regions, the 9th is reserved for Army postal service.

Jhanda Venkayya: Soldier, polyglot & freedom fighter

HARSHITA NAGPAL @ Vijayawada

ON August 2, 1878, a boy was born into a humble farmer family at Bhatlapenumarru village near Machilipatnam in Krishna district. He was named Pingali Venkayya who later earned several titles, including Patthi (Cotton) Venkayya, Diamond Venkayya and Japan Venkayya. However, the name that stays forever is Jhanda (flag) Venkayya.

Unhappy with the hoisting of the Union Jack at every political meeting conducted by the Indian National Congress and local leaders, Pingali resolved to design a national flag for India -- a single flag that would not just shed light on the culture and traditions of the country but also unite the people, which is what the Har Ghar Tiranga is all about. But that was not it. '

Designer of the national flag' was just another hat Pingali donned. There was more to him than meets the eye.

Sahitya Academy award-winning writer and poet, Dr Venna Vallabha Rao — who also penned 'Jathiya Pataka Rupasilpi Pingali Venkayya', a biography on the freedom fighter — calls him a scientist without a degree.

At the age of 19, Pingali was moved by a sense of patriotism and decided to serve the country. He participated in the Boer War in South Africa where he met Mahatma Gandhi in South Africa.

He had a fascination for different Indian and foreign languages. "In 1904, he learnt Japanese at Dayanand Anglo-Vedic College in Lahore and began speaking rather fluently. In Lahore, he also learnt Urdu, Sanskrit and Hindi. He met nationalleaders, who were fighting for independence," Dr Rao says.

The unsung hero was known to be a great orator as well. Congress leaders would always give him an opportunity to address public meetings. At times when microphones would not work, Pingali was the go to man as he had a booming voice that could not only be heard by thousands.

In 1906, when Pingali attended a meeting of the All India Congress Committee in Calcutta, an invitation changed his life. Rangarao Bahadur, Zamindar of Munagala (now in Telangana) in Krishna district, offered Pingali a job. The zamindar advised Pingali to look after agriculture or administration. Pingali accepted the offer. He started conducting research on soils and crops. His most vital research was on how agriculture could contribute to the country's economy.

Pingali died on July 4, 1963.

EDITORIAL

I shall not surrender my Jhansi — Rani Lakshmibai

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.
— Ramnath Goenka

LET'S CELEBRATE THE WILL OF OUR HISTORIC FOREBEARS AND ACT ON UNFULFILLED PROMISE

In the popular imagination, India is a spatial entity. It has a map, a shape—it is a piece of the earth cut out from the rest of the land on this planet, delimited by strict ideas about what is 'inside' and 'outside'. It is this entity that marks the 75th year of its independence today. That milestone, though, is defined in time. Seen on that axis, India also has a temporal being. That India is vastly older, and the cultural-civilisational legacy it has bequeathed us is substantially more fluid in space. Its borders were shifting, its shapes protean, and the histories it created were marked as much by mobility and traffic as by sedimentation. That India is more a river than an island. We inhabit an amalgam of those two Indias today.

The India born on August 15, 1947, is therefore part of a larger journey. Even to define it, we have to refer to events beyond that timeline, to the two centuries of unfreedom we experienced under British colonialism. On that momentous day, we see it in an act of triumphant self-creation done in clear contradistinction to the epoch that preceded it. Fundamentally, we were to be free. Freedom, at that moment, was an accomplishment and yet also an ideal to aspire for. The foreign yoke had been thrown off, but it would be a matter of celebration only for the elite classes, many of whom had collaborated with and continued to prosper under the British, if this new freedom was not equally available to everyone. For freedom to be real, every Indian had to own it, be a part of it, feel and breathe it. Like water flowing equally to all parts of a container, freedom had to be evenly and universally present. And for a historically stratified society, this could only be the start of a journey, an aspiration.

We furnished ourselves with a roadmap for this new journey—a Constitution that was a pioneer in the world on many counts. Primarily, it declared political equality without any caveats. Caste, religion, gender, region, ethnicity, none of these usual differentiators would matter. Each Indian is invested with the right to vote, and that vote has equal value whoever it comes from. Social equality, as the founders of the nation envisaged it, should flow logically from that as a consequence. Economic equality, to the extent it was thought about, was perhaps to be the consequence of that consequence. Optimism, therefore, was built into the source code that runs us as a nation.

The reality has turned out a bit more complex, of course. Those who had been ambivalent or sceptical—including B R Ambedkar, who famously distinguished between political and social equality—proved to have a deeper grasp of the challenges that would confront us. Democracy has many meanings, defined along many axes, but in a basal performative way it is about elections—a mechanism through which the demos decides how we are to be governed. And here, the vote, defined in classic liberal terms as an 'individual' right, turned out to be subject to behavioural patterns that could only be defined by seeing it enacted on a 'collective' plane.

There was a founding paradox here. We were to create a system where even the lone voice of heterodoxy has to be respected, where even a minority of one has equal value. But in practical terms, we sought to do it via a system that privileged the majority opinion, and thus created grounds for such opinion to be manufactured and manipulated. Class, caste, religion, ethnicity, even gender...all the various forms of collective being that had been theoretically eliminated were always in the reckoning.

In August 2022, as we look back at that rose-tinged horizon and pivot to our often grimy present, we must find ourselves called to action on a promise yet to be fulfilled. While we negotiate a meaningful treaty with modernity, we cannot forget the Dalit boy killed in a Rajasthan village for merely drinking water from a common pot—in that same August of 2022. Or women, facing layer upon layer of discrimination, even in elite institutions in our cosmopolises. Or our minorities, on whom must never be raised questions of belonging. Or the Adivasis, the most deeply Indian amongst us. If we are not to be unworthy inheritors, we must find ourselves enjoined to the task of giving the ideals of 1947 flesh and lifeblood. What we must celebrate is the will of our historical forbears, those who gave us the capacity to think and act in pursuit of those universal human values.

The tricolour with its fourth colour at its centre in the Asokan wheel, is more than a flag. It is the Constitution aloft. It is the anthem unfurled

FREEDOM OF CHOICE, OPPORTUNITY, TO BE ONESELF

GOPALKRISHNA GANDHI
Former diplomat and former Governor, West Bengal

Our days are hurried, our hours rushed. Our minutes are chock-full with demands on their seconds. Time has become tight, stifled by torrents of commercial information, propaganda, and rhetoric. We can never be sure if something given to us as a fact is, in fact, a fact. Or if something shown as the truth, the whole truth, is anything but the truth.

We live in times when the line dividing the real from the false is so blurred as to make the two indistinguishable. This adds to worries about the virus, the changing climate, the loss of natural resources, the erosion of ecological integrity and values, and the rise in intolerance and hate.

'Ayyo,' I can hear a sharp 85-year-old Chennaivasi demur. 'They have always been so. I do not know of a single year when we were without worries.' Her stressing the 'rr' in that word carries conviction. Basically, this English-educated granny who is severely myopic, asthmatic, diabetic and has survived any number of blackouts and stumbles plus a nasty bout of Covid-19 is telling me: 'Don't complain about the virus' refusal to go because no one wears masks. Coming from Rukmani-*paatti*, this means a lot. 'Don't shake your head at festivals and *tamasha-s* being held in the jaws of the pandemic,' she continues. 'Don't moan about global warming and about... what is that place.... Antarctica... melting, our glaciers thawing, our rivers getting polluted, dry.' She tells me not to groan about corruption becoming a way of life, incompetence staying a hardy perennial, mediocrity rewarded, unworthiness anointed.

As I murmur disagreement and say something about a golden era that we had, about the scale of wrong-doing being much greater now, and about the challenges faced by democratic dissent and free speech, I am told by her: 'Nothing doing. Don't you remember how Sheikh Abdullah was jailed without trial for years and years, how that golden-hearted Namboodiripad's top-class government in Kerala was sacked, and don't you remember that Mundhra scandal in Nehru's time? Don't you remember how Rajaji was threatened with action for sedition—*sedition*, she repeats in accents of rage , waving her forefinger—for something he wrote in *Swarajya* on Kashmir, the countless dismissals of State Governments and impositions of President's Rule, that infamous case... what was it called...Oh yes, the Nagarvala case and, of course, that blot of blots, the National Emergency, in Indira's time? Did she not jail that *sadhu* in politics, Jayaprakash Narayan, till he was nearly dead?' That last word is said in tones that remind me of a mortuary.

'And as for...what do you call it... that type of capitalism in which certain people are favoured...' 'Crony?' I ask. 'Correct...crony...it was there then also...capitalism was very much there then and is also there now...only the cronies are different...Socialism was on paper then and is on paper now. We had good and bad people in all the good parties. Now we have good and bad people in all bad parties.'

Seeing my brow furrow up in doubt, she continues: 'I am not justifying all that is happening now, *thambi*. I am only saying that for everything that is wrong today, there is a precedent in what you think was a golden era. That gold also had a lot of lead in it. And today's lead is not all lead. That is all.' And she says that 'all' with the aa in it stretched to its fullest acoustic scope, not as in 'hall' but in 'aah'. It has finality

But she has not done. 'One thing more...look at this fuss about the national flag being hoisted on houses...The Prime Minister asked us to do what was only right and proper. In this 75th year of our freedom, do you expect him to say anything different about the flag? Whatever it is, I am going to plant it in my little garden. It is our freedom flag, our struggle's flag, which we used to carry about singing *Vande Mataram*. It is our Gandhiji's flag, Nehru's and Subhas Bose's flag. You have worked in Bengal. You know of Matangini Hazra...She died holding the flag aloft...She was shot...*shot*...holding that flag...We remember her...We of my generation...We must remember her and others like her on this anniversary... And I will in my broken voice hum *Vande Mataram* as I plant it...'

I say, 'You don't plant flags, *paatti*. You hoist them.'

File picture of Gopalkrishna Gandhi with the then President Pranab Mukherjee and the then Tamil Nadu Governor K Rosaiah at an event in Chennai in 2013 | PTI

'Maybe...but I don't have a flag pole. I will tie it to my *tulasi* plant...'

I salute her.

One does not argue with the age-honed Rukmani *paatti-s* of life. They are positive cynics. Not to be fooled into blind adulation by the testimony of all that was good and great in the past, not to be led into outright criticism by the evidence of all that is bad and ugly in the present. Such objective witnesses are precious and irreplaceable. They don't come like that anymore.

But Rukmani *paatti's* wisdom notwithstanding, and with due respect to her, it is vital that we be true to ourselves, to our times, in acknowledging our deep anxieties. And being true would mean acknowledging that there are millions who cannot be asked to be truer to themselves than they already are.

Can we ask an undertrial or a detenu to 'be true to herself or himself'?

Can we ask someone from a minority who feels self-conscious, watched for conformity and for compliance to be true to herself or himself? That someone could be a Kashmiri Pandit in Baramulla, a Sunni in Mathura, a Roman Catholic in Nashik, a Dalit in Benares, a Sikh in Aligarh. 'Be true to myself,' such a person might respond with a pained laugh. 'Can I wear what I want to, eat and drink what I want to, pray how I want to?'

Can we ask someone in our hill or forest or coastal areas, suffering the loss of livelihood because 'ease of business' or 'development' requires him to forfeit traditional vocations and rights, to 'be true to herself or himself'? 'Be true to myself? The only way I can be that is by saying loud and clear that my future and that of my children is in dire danger, that I want my means of livelihood to be protected against disasters—natural and manmade.'

Can we ask a free thinker, a writer or an artist to 'be true to herself'? 'What do you mean by "Be true?" she or he will say, 'I am being true when I write, create. But I want to do and be that without having to account for what I do. I just want to be myself. I need to be that...myself... without being afraid of breaking some code, some law, some rule...In other words, be myself without fear?' In truth, we cannot.

The late President of India, A P J Abdul Kalam, in his delightful interactions with students, asked: 'Tell me children...what do you want to be?' A forest of hands went up. One said 'doctor', another, 'pilot', a third, 'actor'. The First Citizen was thrilled that not one said 'politician'. But just when the session was giving over, a boy raised his hand. 'Yes...tell me...' said the President, 'what do *you* want to be ?' 'Sir...I want to be... happy.' The hall burst into applause, a beaming President of India leading.

Choice, the freedom and the opportunity to choose, is at the core of freedom which is the prerequisite for happiness.

In strictly election terminology, this means the right to say NOTA. None of the above.

To be able to say 'not this, not that...', 'not that, not this...' or 'NOTA', without anxiety, without fear of consequences, is democratic freedom. To be able to feel like praying, feel like not praying, to feel like praying in seclusion or congregationally and to be able to tell anyone who asks anything about one's religious beliefs or unbeliefs— 'Mind your business', is religious freedom. To not have to prove one's patriotism to the Right or one's independence to the Left, but to have the freedom to take one's stand anywhere—or nowhere—on a spectrum of choices, is the ultimate freedom.

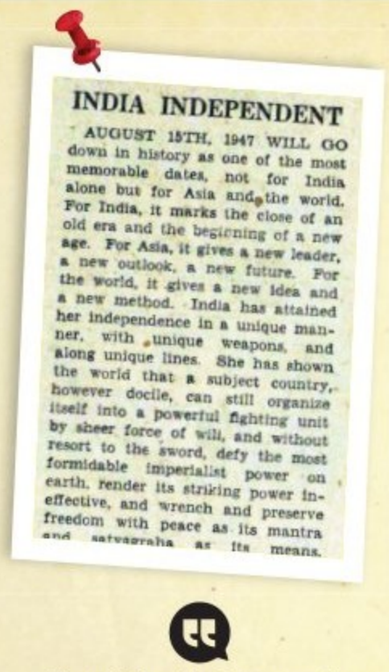
The tricolour with its fourth colour—blue—at its centre in the Asokan wheel of *dharma* is about freedom, and justice, which includes justice for all those being wronged, is more than a flag. It is the Constitution aloft. It is the anthem unfurled.

And so, as Rukmani *paatti* and all of us who, with our Prime Minister leading us, raise or salute the national flag and sing the national anthem on August 15, it is that freedom of choice and of opportunity that we celebrate the joy of the freedom to be oneself as proud Indians. Not in some abject act of conformity, not to impress a neighbour or be in the good books of someone powerful and certainly not out of a sense of obligation but in the spirit of true *Azadi* or, in Tamil, *viduthalai*.

(gopalgandhi45@gmail.com)

From our archives

Here is the editorial published on August 15, 1947, defining the challenges and opportunities before Independent India



INDIA INDEPENDENT

AUGUST 15TH, 1947 WILL GO down in history as one of the most memorable dates, not for India alone but for Asia and the world. For India, it marks the close of an old era and the beginning of a new age. For Asia, it gives a new leader, a new outlook, a new future. For the world, it gives a new idea and a new method. India has attained her independence in a unique manner, with unique weapons, and along unique lines. She has shown the world that a subject country, however docile, can still organize itself into a powerful fighting unit by sheer force of will, and without resort to the sword, defy the most formidable imperialist power on earth, render its striking power ineffective, and wrench and preserve freedom with peace as its mantra and satyagraha as its means.

That this freedom is temporarily fissured and broken does not alter the fact that the heritage is common, that the future is yet to be made. The task before Indians therefore is to preserve the common heritage and to shape the future. Reconstruction and unity must be the aim

INDIA INDEPENDENT

August 15th, 1947 will go down in history as one of the most memorable dates, not for India alone but for Asia and the world. For India, it marks the end of an old era and the beginning of a new age. For Asia, it gives a new leader, a new outlook, a new future. For the world, it gives a new India and a new method. India has attained her independence in a unique manner, with unique weapons, and along unique lines. She has shown the world that a subject country, however docile, can still organise itself into a powerful fighting unit by sheer force of will and without resort to the sword, defy the most formidable imperialist power on Earth, render its striking power ineffective, and wrench and preserve freedom with peace as its mantra and satyagraha as its means. Through mainly the inspiration and instrumentality of Mahatma Gandhi, who embodies all that is best and noblest in India, this country has reached its goal without violence. The Indian National Congress which constituted the spearhead of India's struggle for freedom, has in the course of a little over half a century, won for the country the greatest of all assets, independence. The names of the heroes thrown up in the process are legion; those who died for it are many and those who remain are not few. To all those who have striven, the consummation must come as a prize and an emblem. India is at last free.

That this freedom is temporarily fissured and broken does not alter the fact that the heritage is common, that the future is yet to be made. The task before Indians therefore is to preserve the common heritage and to shape the future. Reconstruction and unity must be the aim. It is possible that it may take long to materialize, but that should be no cause for regret. Did not even America, with less complexities, take well-nigh a century to realise her goal of unity? One should hope, however, that India will achieve it much earlier. And while hoping it is worth remembering that just as the past belongs to India and Pakistan alike, the future too belongs to both. It should be remembered also that the country has achieved its freedom at a time when the whole world is at the cross-roads, between life and death, wandering between archaic colonialism and empire philosophy on the one hand and liberty on the other. That the people in this continent have a special role to play in it cannot be overlooked. But to fulfil the mission, Indians have to achieve unity and peace among themselves so that they may help to bring about peace and goodwill among the nations of the world that are now rent by mutual jealousies and suspicion. In the circumstances, a sense of responsibility is as important as resources of mind and character. It is the essence of national self-discipline and Pandit Nehru gave expression to the right sentiment, when, inaugurating the Liberty Week he laid great stress on these qualities. The strength of a chain being the strength of its weakest link; the effort admits of no relaxation. While therefore we should aim at strength and solidarity and ensure good government for realisation of future destiny we should also remember that self-government is not to be an instrument of power alone but an opportunity of service.

It is in the spirit of service today that India enters the comity of nations as a free and self-reliant entity. She does so as a nation not weak and embittered by a prolonged struggle for freedom but as a nation resurgent, a power with untold potentialities for good. She realises that not only herself, but along with her the whole of Asia has risen; large parts of which are liberated already, others are in the process of liberation. In such an eventuality India will utilise her freedom not merely for her own material interests much less for domination over others, but to lead and help Asia, nay the whole world. She remembers only too well that, for this, she has to repair her own economy, her own damaged freedom. But with her present leaders still in trim, she feels confident that with a little more effort, she can achieve her purpose. The partition of the country must go, tension must disappear, progressive understanding of the need for space and concord must be promoted unceasingly, common action in mutual interest being always in mind. The need also for citizens to identify self with the State being important, every citizen must live for India just as India must live for all. To adapt great words to a great occasion, India expects every man to do his duty.

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

India's 75th birthday

Today, India is celebrating her 75th year of Independence. This is a day of pride, for it is when we rightfully got our freedom back. The generation that sacrificed so much so we, the Indians of today, could have our freedom, are individuals to always be thankful to. The government of India's 'Har Ghar Tiranga' is an attempt to invoke a sense of patriotism on this special day. But while we celebrate this day, let us not forget about the Indians who still live in poverty. And let us strive to reach the social justice and equality that our leaders had envisaged decades ago.
B Veerakumaran Thampi, Pattom

India is free

India is not completely free of its problems. However, linking it with 'Har Ghar Tiranga' may not be the best thing to do. This day is for genuine affection towards the soil that holds us and shelters us. We have had many achievements that are necessary to validate and be proud of. Let us raise our heads high as we celebrate today—India is free.
Jitendranath Guru, Padampur

Landmark judgements

Apropos of *Major judgements that shaped India* (August 14). Thanks for having a page that showcases an excellent summary of the Supreme Court's landmark judgements. It serves as a ready reckoner for not just lawyers or law students, but piques the interest of a citizen not involved in the profession. All this just goes to show the importance of the judiciary in our country.
N Rama Rao, Chennai

From your archives

It was wonderful to have a peek into the archive articles from August 14, 1947 on the Sunday editorial page. Including a clipping of actual articles from that era reminds us of what life was like then and how the situation was. As a reader, I liked it very much. Good effort by the newspaper!
Salman, Telangana

India vs Bharat

This is with reference to the editorial *Indian democracy is now the rule of a few, for fewer, by the fewest* (August 14). I completely agree with Prabhu Chawla's elaborate descriptions and reasons for why he chose to conclude with how India really is today—the obvious gap between India and Bharat. One can only hope that we go back to the dictum "of the people, by the people, for the people". That will make India what it was truly envisioned to be.
K Nehru Patnaik, Visakhapatnam

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS
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We chronicle India's journey to 75 years since Independence through our newspaper, highlighting some of the major events that shaped the country's political, economic and social firmament, catapulting it into a vibrant democracy and a global powerhouse

THE ROAD TO 75

1947-1950

INDIA CELEBRATES FREEDOM
Consambly Takes Over Governance
Memorable Scenes In Madras
MOUNTBATTEN ASKS TO BE RELIEVED IN APRIL

Aug 17, 1947: India Celebrates Freedom

BAPU, THE FATHER OF THE NATION, IS NO MORE

Jan 30, 1948: Mahatma Gandhi Shot dead

NEW CONSTITUTION ADOPTED

Nov 26, 1949: New Constitution adopted

RAJEN BABU ELECTED FIRST PRESIDENT

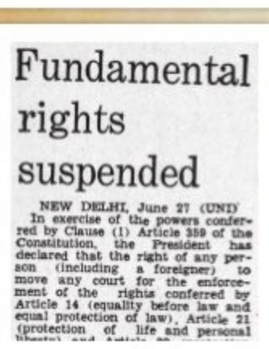
Jan25, 1950: Rajendra Prasad Elected 1st President

- **Aug 14, 1947**: Nehru's midnight speech
- **Oct 27, 1947**: Kashmir accedes to Indian Union
- **Mar 2, 1949**: Sarojini Naidu passes away
- **Dec 15, 1950**: Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel passes away

1971-1980

Pakistan launches attack in the west
EMERGENCY IS DECLARED
Ten airfields hit: 3 planes downed by groundfire
Indira: we'll hit back decisively

Dec 04, 1971: Indo – Pak War


Fundamental rights suspended

June 27, 1975: Fundamental Rights suspended

MUJIB DECLARES INDEPENDENCE

Mar 26, 1971: Bangladesh war; Civil war breaks out in East Pakistan

INDIRA. SANJAY FALL

Mar 21, 1977: Emergency lifted Indira, Sanjay Fall

INDIA EXPLODES NUCLEAR DEVICE

May 18, 1974: India Explodes Nuclear Device

SANJAY KILLED IN PLANE CRASH IN DELHI
Aerobatic tragedy 12 min. after take-off

Jun 23, 1980: Sanjay Gandhi Killed in Plane Crash

- **Dec 16, 1971:** Bangladesh War-Pak army surrenders
- **July 3, 1972:** Accord at Simla Summit
- **Aug 15, 1975:** Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Assassination
- **Mar 24, 1977:** Morarji Desai becomes Prime Minister
- **July 28, 1979:** Charan Singh becomes Prime Minister
- **Jan 14, 1980:** Indira Gandhi becomes Prime Minister

INDIA @ 75 means many things to many people: it is, for instance, an experiment in the ideals of democracy as our founding fathers envisioned. It certainly is a story of how a people pulled itself out of colonial yoke to achieve dreams — political, economic, social and technological — that very few post-colonial states have been able to fulfill. But above all, as the world's largest democracy, India today is story of a billion aspirations and opportunities.

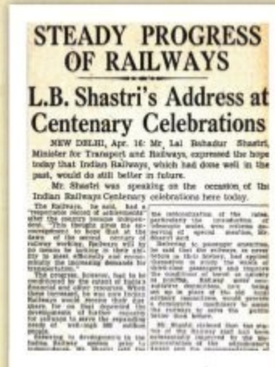
At Independence, the international community had expressed doubts about India's ability to stay the course. For sure colonialism and the attendant deindustrialisation had taken its toll, but foresight coupled with mixed economy approach provided the stability that a young nation could bank on and work on for its future.

The India of the '60s, '70s and '80s was turbulent in many ways and yet it had the courage and collective fortitude to steer a different course — economic liberalisation — whose immediate effect was in lifting millions out of poverty. The belief in and the practice of democracy, with its warts and all, along with visionary policies by successive governments has contributed to making India a regional and global powerhouse.

There are still vast swathes of India where inequality persists, caste remains an impediment for a section of Indians to enjoy the fruits of freedom and religious intolerance comes in the way of true nation building.

And yet India is a vibrant, pulsating, promising and deeply enriching country that appeals to the imagination of its own people. In as much as it is an adventure, it also charms and enchants.

1951-1960


STEADY PROGRESS OF RAILWAYS
L.B. Shastri's Address at Centenary Celebrations

Apr 16, 1953: Indian Railways' Centenary Celebrations begins

NEW SET-UP OF STATES FROM TODAY
ALL preparations are now complete for the

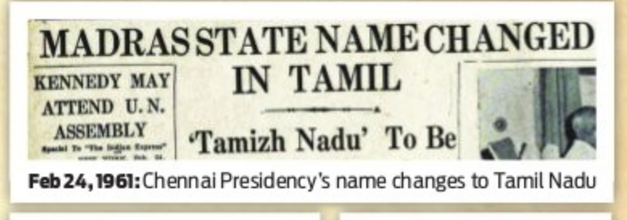
Oct 30, 1956: New State Kerala Map

NATION MOURNS AZAD'S DEATH

Feb 22, 1958: Maulana Abul Kalam Azad dies

- **May 28, 1953:** Andhra Pradesh state was formed
- **Oct 9, 1955:** States Recognition happened
- **Feb 2, 1959:** Indira Gandhi is elected as Congress President
- **July 31, 1959:** Kerala's Red ministry dismissed
- **May 1, 1960:** States of Gujarat and Maharashtra are formed from the State of Bombay

1961-1970


MADRAS STATE NAME CHANGED IN TAMIL
KENNEDY MAY ATTEND U. N. ASSEMBLY
'Tamizh Nadu' To Be

Feb 24, 1961: Chennai Presidency's name changes to Tamil Nadu

14 BIG BANKS NATIONALISED
Unanimous decision by Cabinet

Jul 19, 1969: Banks Nationalised

Chinese reinforce post in NEFA area
17 INDIANS KILLED

Oct 11, 1962: Indo-China War

PREMIER SHASTRI DEAD

Jan 11, 1966: Lal Bahadur Shastri Dead

- **Dec 19, 1961**: Indian Flag over Portuguese colonies
- **Sep 23, 1965:** Conflict Between India and Pakistan
- **July 16, 1969:** Morarji Desai quits after Indira takes away portfolio
- **Feb 3, 1969:** Death of CN Annadurai

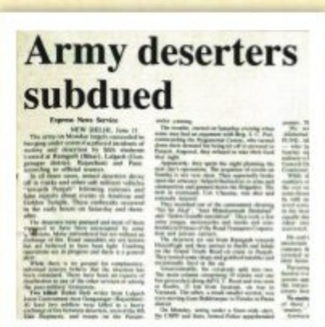
1981-1990

250 TERRORISTS, 59 SOLDIERS KILLED IN BATTLE — LONGOWAL, TOHRA SURRENDER — RESISTANCE SUBSIDES
ARMY STORMS GOLDEN TEMPLE

Jun 6, 1984: Golden Temple Attack

410 die in toxic gas leak from factory
Bhopal pesticide plant closed | Over two lakh affected | Judicial probe ordered | Huge ecological disaster

Dec 3, 1984: Bhopal Gas Tragedy


Army deserters subdued

Jun 11, 1984: Operation Blue Star

- **Jun 26, 1983:** India wins World Cup
- **Apr 30, 1986:** Troops capture Golden temple
- **July 30, 1987:** Indian Army's Sri Lankan Operation IPKF
- **May 22, 1989:** Agni Missile Test
- **Dec 2, 1989:** VP Singh becomes Prime Minister

INDIRA GANDHI ASSASSINATED
Shot dead by own security guards
One killed, 2 in hospital
Zail's appeal to maintain stability

Oct 31, 1984: Indira Gandhi Assassination

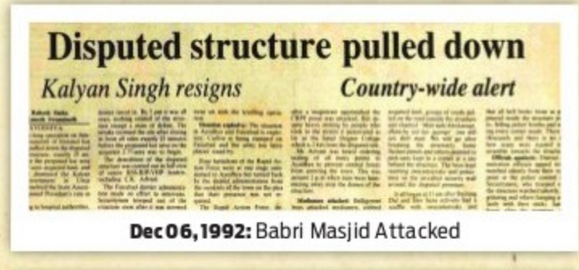
MGR DIES OF HEART ATTACK
Neduncheziyan heads interim govt
MGR had India's unity at heart, says Rajiv

Dec 24, 1987: MGR Dies of Heart Attack

1991-2000

RAJIV GANDHI ASSASSINATED
Killed in bomb blast at Sriperumbudur
2 securitymen among 11 others dead

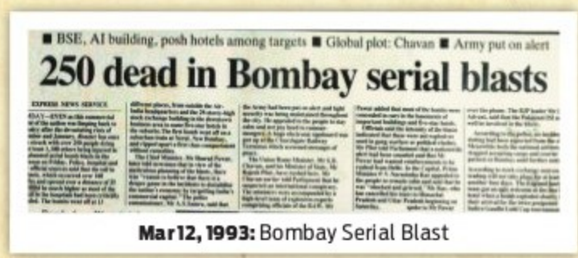
May 21, 1991: Rajiv Gandhi Assassination


Disputed structure pulled down
Kalyan Singh resigns — Country-wide alert

Dec 06, 1992: Babri Masjid Attacked

Vajpayee retains important portfolios

May 16, 1996: AB Vajpayee Prime Minister


BSE, AI building, posh hotels among targets ■ Global plot: Chavan ■ Army put on alert
250 dead in Bombay serial blasts

Mar 12, 1993: Bombay Serial Blast

Kargil probe not to hurt jawans
By Harish Gupta
New Delhi, July 15: Prim Minister Atal Behari Vajpaye has initiated the process of con sulting his Cabinet colleague for instituting a probe into th

July 26, 1999: Kargil War

- **June 01, 1996:** HD Deve Gowda becomes PM
- **April 21, 1997:** IK Gujaral becomes Prime Minister
- **May 11, 1998:** Nuclear Weapon test
- **Mar 19, 1998:** Vajpayee Prime Minister
- **Dec 24, 1999:** IC814 Hijack

2001-2010

Keshubhai-baiters adorn Narendra Modi Ministry

Oct 7, 2001: Narendra Modi Gujarat CM

Terror comes to Parliament

Dec 13, 2001: Parliament Attack

Manmohan takes oath as PM

May 22, 2004: Manmohan Singh PM

- **Jan 28, 2001**: Earthquake in Gujarat
- **Nov 26, 2008**: Mumbai Terror Attack

2011-2020

THE CUP IS OURS, WE ARE THE WORLD
WINCREDIBLE INDIA

Apr 2, 2011: India Won World Cup

TIGER WON'T ROAR AGAIN
Mercurial Icon of Marathi Pride

Nov 17, 2012: Bal Thackeray dies

At least 500 Roads, 170 Bridges, Hundreds of Houses Wiped Out

Jun 18-19, 2013: Uttarakhand Landslides and Flood

STYLE, SUBSTANCE IN CORONATION
Modi Brings in Doval as NSA, Mishra as Principal Secretary

May 26, 2014: Narendra Modi sworn in as Indian Prime Minister

APJ ABDUL KALAM 1931 – 2015
Dies Doing What He Did Best: Igniting Minds
7-DAY MOURNING IN STATE

Jul 27, 2015: APJ Abdul Kalam died

FINANCIAL POKHRAN
Cautious welcome by corporate India

Nov 8, 2016: Indian banknote demonetization

- **Jul 1, 2013:** India's first navigation satellite was successfully launched
- **Jun 2, 2014:** Andhra Pradesh Split into Andhra and Telangana
- **Jan 1, 2015:** NITI Aayog formed
- **Sep 29, 2016:** Surgical Strike
- **Aug 7, 2018:** Former CM M Karunanidhi dead
- **Aug 16, 2018:** Vajpayee dead
- **July 22, 2019:** ISRO launches Chandrayaan-2 mission
- **Aug 5, 2019:** Article 370 and 35A revoked from Constitution
- **Nov 9, 2019:** Supreme Court verdict on Ayodhya dispute
- **Mar 23, 2020:** Covid Lockdown
- **Aug 5, 2020:** Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the Ram Temple at Ayodhya.
- **Aug 31, 2020:** Pranab Mukherjee passes away
- **Sep 30, 2020:** Babri Masjid demolition case verdict

2021-2022

Four promises delivered on day 1

May 7, 2021: MK Stalin swears in as Chief Minister of TN along with 33 MLAs

GOLD!

Aug 7, 2021: Neeraj Chopra wins Historic Gold Medal for India at the Tokyo Olympics

- **Dec 17, 2021:** CM MK Stalin declares "Tamil Thaai Vazhthu" as State Anthem
- **Oct 8, 2021:** TATA Group wins bid for Air India
- **July 25, 2022:** Prez Murmu personifies poor's aspirations

VOICE OF INDIA IN EVERY SENSE

Feb 6, 2022: India's beloved nightingale and melody queen Lata Mangeshkar passes away

INDIAN EXPRESS
Bill raising marriage age

Dec 16, 2021: Union Government increases Minimum Legal Marriage age for women from 18 to 21

ON THE ROAD

Contractual employees of the state-owned Punjab Roadways on Sunday went on a 3-day strike, demanding regularisation of their jobs and leaving many commuters stranded as over 3K buses stayed off the roads.

100 FEET — HIGH FLAG INSTALLED BY ARMY IN BARAMULLA

Ahmedabad	33	27	Mumbai	29	26
Bhopal	25	23	Panaji	30	25
Jaipur	28	25	Patna	33	27
Amritsar	30	27	Lucknow	32	27
Chennai	35	28	Port Blair	31	26
Kolkata	31	26	Imphal	30	21
Srinagar	29	19	Chandigarh	31	27

'India set to become Atmanirbhar Bharat'

Country will be able to fully realise all the dreams of freedom fighters by 2047, says President Droupadi Murmu

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR
@ New Delhi

Indian President Droupadi Murmu on Sunday expressed hope that the country will be able to fully realise all the dreams of freedom fighters by 2047. In her address to the nation on the eve of Independence Day, Murmu said, "We have given a concrete shape to the vision of those who, led by Babasaheb Ambedkar, drafted the Constitution. We are already on course to build an Aatmanirbhar Bharat — India that would realise its true potential."

She added: "While celebrating the Independence Day, the country is celebrating Bharatiyata. The works done with the spirit of 'Nation First' are reflected in every decision and every sector."

Hailing the country's performance, she said every citizen should be aware of their fundamental duties and follow it in letter and spirit to take the nation to a new height of power and prosperity.

The President said the keyword for today's India is 'compassion' — for the downtrodden, the needy and all those on the margins of society.

"When the world has been battling the economic consequences of the great crisis, India got its act together and is now moving forward. India is among the fastest growing major economies in the world," she said. She added that India will realise the dreams of freedom fighters by 2047. "We will have given by 2047 a concrete shape to the vision of those who, led by Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedakar, drafted the Constitution," the President said, hailing the government's decision to observe Nov. 15 as Janajatiya Gaurav Divas as a welcome decision.

The President said when India won independence, there were many international leaders and experts who were sceptical about the success of the democratic form of government in India due to poverty and illiteracy at that time.

> **Our country is full of diversity. But at the same time, all of us have something in common. It is this common thread that binds all of us together and inspires us to walk with the spirit of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshth Bharat'... India has helped the world discover the true potential of democracy**
>
> DROUPADI MURMU, President

"But we Indians proved the sceptics wrong. Democracy not only grew roots in this soil, it was enriched too," she said as she asked citizens to pledge to give everything for the sake of the safety, security, progress and prosperity of the country.

She also lauded India for crossing the 200-crore mark in cumulative vaccine coverage, and said India's confidence is reflected in the spirit of its youth, its farmers and above all, its women.

Describing girls as the biggest hope for the nation, the President said that they are scaling great heights, becoming pilots and space scientists. She also called upon the countrymen for conserving water, soil and bio-diversity as part oftheir duty towards the nation and children.

"Our country is full of diversity. But at the same time, all of us have something in common. It is this common thread that binds all of us together and inspires us to walk with the spirit of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshth Bharat'," she said.

India has helped the world discover the true potential of democracy and the keyword for the country today is compassion for the downtrodden, needy and those on the margins, she added.

Didi firmly stands by Anubrata, maintains distance from Partha

PRANAB MONDAL @ Kolkata

LAUNCHING a blistering attack on the BJP, West Bengal chief minister on Sunday spoke out first time and made her stance clear supporting TMC strongman Anubrata Mondal, who was arrested by the CBI in connection with an alleged cattle scam case.

"What has Keshto (Mondal) done? What evidence you have against him? I asked him to go Rajya Sabha, but he declined saying he would love to work for the party's organisation. Why he has been arrested? The central agency went on a rampage at Keshto's house," said Mamata while addressing a rally in south Kolkata's Behala.

The Bengal CM, however, continued to maintain distance on the issue of arrest of former minister Partha Chatterjee by the Enforcement Directorate. "I will not speak on anything which is a subjudice matter," she said.

> **What has Keshto (Mondal) done? What evidence you have against him? I asked him to go Rajya Sabha, but he declined saying he would love to work for the party's organisation. Why he has been arrested?**
>
> Mamata Banerjee, Bengal CM

Opposing Mondal's arrest and supporting him by Mamata is said to be significant aiming at the upcoming panchayat elections in the state slated to be held next year. When Chatterjee, who was also the party's secretary general, was arrested, Mamata said law would take its own course and the party would take stern action if he is found guilty in the court.

"Chatterjee already expelled from Bengal cabinet and suspended from the party. The party is yet to announce any action against Mondal. Instead, Mamata's speech on Sunday made it clear that the party is with Mondal. It is because, he is the man who secured party's sweeping victory in all previous elections in Birbhum district. Had the chief minister washed off her hands after Mondal's arrest, it would have sent a wrong message to other strongmen like Mondal of our party in districts who conduct polls in ground-level,'' said a senior TMC leader.

Lambasting the BJP, Mamata accused the saffron camp of derailing elected governments in other states by using its money power.

Referring to the recovery of cash Rs 49 lakh from a vehicle in which three Congress MLAs from Jharkhand was travelling, Mamata said, "I have caught your act red-handed. Three Congress MLAs from Jharkhand were caught with bundles of cash recently in Kolkata and the BJP paid Rs 10 crore each of the opposition MLAs to topple the government in Jharkhand. But don't try this trick in Bengal. Remember, Royal Bengal Tiger lives here," she said.

The CBI is likely to question TMC strongman Anubrata Mondal's daughter Sukanya in connection with her father's proceeds of alleged cattle smuggling. Sources in the central agency said they would question Mondal's daughter Sukanya at her Bolpur residence. The name of Mondal's daughter emerged as part of the probing into alleged cattle scam and the agency suspected money was parked in Sukanya's bank accounts.

Army's Singh, IAF's Misra bag top gallantry awards

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

THE President of India Droupadi Murmu on Sunday awarded Naik Devendra Pratap Singh from the Army Kirti Chakra, the second highest peacetime gallantry award, for displaying indomitable courage and devotion beyond call of duty resulting in elimination of two hardcore terrorists in Pulwama in Jammu and Kashmir. He belongs to the 55th Battalion of the Rashtriya Rifles (RR).

The President of India who happens to be also the Supreme Commander of the armed forces conferred gallantry awards on the occasion of Independence Day 2022 and it included the personnel of the Coast Guard also.

Wing Commander Deepika Misra Helicopter Pilot is one of the eight Air Force personnel awarded with the gallantry medals. Deepika Misra was awarded Vayu Sena Medal for Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief operations in response to flash floods in northern Madhya Pradesh in August 2021 which she accomplished despite the odds of deteriorating weather, strong winds and the nearing sunset time.

To the Army, President awarded total of Kirti Chakra 01, Shaurya Chakra 08 (02 posthumus), Bar to Sena Medal (Second time) 02, Sena Medal 81 (Including 05 posthumus), Mention-in-Despatches 41 (Including 01 posthumous).

President awarded Shaurya Chakra to Lt Cdr Mritunjay Kumar and a Nao Sena Medal to Vineet Kumar, LA (AH), for gallantry to Indian Navy personnel on the eve of Independence Day

The IAF was conferred a total of seven Vayu Sena Medals and one Mention-in-Despatches to the personnel of the Air Force for their acts of Gallantry. Group Captain Ravi Nanda, Flying (Pilot) the Commanding Officer of a C-130J Transport Squadron and Group Captain Rahul Singh (27001) Flying (Pilot) is on the posted strength of a C-17 Transport Squadron were awarded the Vayu Sena Medals for their role in Operation Devi Shakti, into the destabilised war-torn nation of Afghanistan for facilitating swift and safe evacuation of Indian Diaspora under imminent threat to their lives.

The Shaurya Chakras to the personnel of the Army were given to the personnel in action in Jammu and Kashmir. Of the eight personnel two are from the Para Special Forces while all the others were with the Rashtriya Rifles in Kashmir valley. Rashtriya Rifles is the Counter Insurgency- Counter Terrorism force operating in the hinterland of Jammu and Kashmir.

Maximum police gallantry medals to CRPF, JKP

NEW DELHI: The CRPF and Jammu and Kashmir Police were decorated with the maximum gallantry awards for undertaking counter-terrorist operations in the Union Territory as the Centre announced various service medals for a total of 1,082 personnel on the occasion of Independence Day. The Union Home ministry issued the roll of honour on Sunday, the eve of 76th Independence Day, for the personnel of all the state police forces as well as the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs). The decorations include a total of 347 police medal for gallantry (PMG), 87 President's police medal for distinguished service and 648 police medals for meritorious service. The CRPF got 83 bravery medals out of the 109 in its kitty for operations in J&K.

TWIN IDENTITY?

'Naga flag' flies along with Tiranga in Manipur

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @ Guwahati

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi's "Har Ghar Tiranga" campaign drew a seesaw counterview in the Naga-majority hills of Manipur. As the stalemate in the Naga peace process continues, the Nagas hoisted the "Naga national flag" and organised programmes at many villages in the Naga areas of Manipur on Sunday to celebrate the "Naga Independence Day".

On August 14, 1947, the extremists of the Naga National Council had proclaimed independence from British rule. It was an attempt to be seen as separate from the Indian nation. Photos and videos of Sunday's Naga I-Day celebration in Manipur went viral on social media. The Nagas have a sizeable population in the state.

In Ukhrul district, which is the birthplace of several top leaders of major rebel group National Socialist Council of Nagalim (NSCN-IM) including the outfit's chief negotiator in the peace talks Thuingaleng Muivah, people celebrated the day by hoisting the Naga national flag across villages.

Some Naga organisations had asked the Naga villages to hoist the Naga flag in the morning of August 14 to mark the day. In neighbouring Nagaland, the Naga flag was hoisted here and there, including at the designated camps of the insurgent groups, but the Indian national flag was way more visible.

Meanwhile, the All Naga Students' Association, Manipur (ANSAM) criticised Manipur's BJP-led government for its alleged "blanket order" to hoist the Indian national flag on August 15.

JD-U & RJD alliance will have little impact on national politics: Kishor

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR
@ New Delhi

POLL strategist Prashant Kishor does not think that the JD-U-RJD grand-alliance will have much impact on national politics. "Let the media or others analyse the political formation, but I don't see this going to have much implication on the national politics. It is specific to a state. It is not the grand-alliance of 2015 when there was pre-poll rie-up," the former JD-U vice-president said.

Terming the JD-U,RJD realignment as a "political arrangement" for the second time in the past 10 years, Kishor said: "This is the sixth time when such a political formation has been formed by Nitish Kumar in the last 10 years."

Unline between 2005 and 2012, Nitish never appeared to be comfortable with the BJP since 2017, he told this newspaper. Political instability in Bihar has been going on for the past 10 years, but Nitish has only remained "constant" and "stable".

"Political formations like the one that has happened in Bihar recently change when one's expectations are not fulfilled. Now, it is up to both Tejashwi Yadav and Nitish Kumar to ensure that they meet the expectation of the people."

Kishor was considered to be a close ally of Nitish, but he parted his ways from JD-U when the Bihar chief minister supported the BJP stand on NRC in Parliament. "There were many chances for Nitish Kumar when he was with the BJP in the past. Why he did not do then? Now it is to be seen whether the new government with the RJD will function better than the previous one." He said.

When asked about his chance of returning to JD-U, Kishor categorically denied it. He said that he would be taking out a padyatra form October 2.

9 U'khand river stretches most polluted, says study

NARENDRA SETHI @ Dehradun

In a report by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), nine river stretches of U'khand have been classified as the most polluted river stretches in the country. After the disclosure of this report, the state government has planned to implement Japanese technology to treat sewerage in the local vicinities.

A recent report of CPCB revealed that 357 polluted river stretches were identified on 323 rivers, according to Bio chemical oxygen demand (BOD), an indicator of organic pollution in the country. These polluted river stretches include nine rivers of the state, which is highly alarming, keeping in view the origination of river Ganga from Himalayas.

Talking to TNIE, Secretary Government of Uttarakhand, Nitesh Jha told this correspondent, "We are making our level best efforts to make Ganga and its tributaries pollution free under namami gange scheme. We have installed STPs in all cities connected to the Ganga. Now we are starting trials of Japan's technology for the treatment of sewers of localities and it's adjoining recently developed new colonies," he added.

GUJARAT

6 Congress MLAs set to quit party, may join BJP

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA
@ Ahmedabad

IN a blow to Congress' preparation in crucial Gujarat elections, six of its MLAs from Saurashtra region are speculated to leave the party and join BJP soon. They are likely to join the saffron party ahead of ahead of Rajasthan CM and Gujarat Congress Senior in-charge Ashok Gehlot's visit to the state. Gehlot is all set to visit Gujarat on a three-day tour from August 16 to 18.

According to sources, Bhavesh Katara, Chirag Kalgaria, Lalit Vasoya, Sanjay Solanki, Mahesh Patel, and Harshad Ribadia are the MLAs who are likely to leave the party and join BJP. Sources said all these six MLAs had a meeting with Gujarat BJP chief C R Patil on Saturday night. After these six Congress MLAs cross-voted in the presidential election in favour of NDA candidate Droupadi Murmu, Congress formed an inquiry committee. Congress party sources are saying that the names of these six MLAs were in this inquiry committee, so before the party took any action, they met BJP state president C R Patil at a secret place on Saturday night.

Sources say that a strategy was decided in this meeting that all the MLAs should resign when Gehlot will be in the state so that his and the Congress party's image will be damaged. The enmasse resignations of six MLAs will force the Cong high command in Delhi to have a relook at Gehlot's role.

Centre earmarks ₹5.8K cr for eco & spiritual tourism

PARVEZ SULTAN @ New Delhi

WITH major thrust on eco and spiritual tourism, the tourism ministry has released nearly ₹5,800 crores for infrastructure development and improvement of facilities at places, especially those related to spiritualism, thronged by tourists under various schemes in the last eight years; since formation of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) led Government at the Centre. According to officials, funds are being released to states and central agencies mainly under Swadesh Darshan, Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (Prashad) and tourism infrastructure development schemes.

According to the detailed tabled by the union tourism minister ministry G Kishan Reddy in Rajya Sabha during recently concluded Parliament session, maximum Rs 4,599 crores were released under Swadesh Darshan Scheme (SDS), which is for development theme based circuits -northeast, coastal, wildlife, desert, eco, heritage, spiritual, Buddhist, Ramayana, Himalayan, and Krishna.

The ministry has sanctioned a financial assistance of ₹687 crores under 'tourism infrastructure development (TFD) scheme' for different projects to attract tourists such as illumination of heritage buildings.

Villages around MP dam put on high alert as seepage water gushes out

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhopal

ALL 18 villages adjoining the under construction Karam Dam in Dhar district of Madhya Pradesh, have been put on heightened alert, as the water from the damaged dam has started rushing out of the two by-pass channels created after sustained efforts of 48 hours.

"The two bypass channels created for controlled release of water from the dam have started working as the water from the dam has started making its way out with huge force. The force of water is going to increase only, owing to which I appeal to residents of all the affected villages of Dhar and Khargone districts, not to return to their villages," MP CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan said in a video statement on Sunday evening.

Monitoring the situation since morning from the Situation Room in Bhopal, the CM said, "I once again appeal to residents of 18 vacated villages (12 in Dhar and 6 in Khargone) not to put lives in danger by returning to their villages. Just be safe along with your livestock where you've been shifted for safety," Chouhan appealed to the residents of the concerned villages.

He subsequently briefed the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and union home minister Amit Shah with the latest updates on the issue.

While the excess water that was putting pressure on the damaged dam has started rushing out and making its way towards the river Narmada in adjoining Khargone district, most of the 100 families residing in Bhandakho village (situated at higher altitude in the dam's vicinity), have left their houses and climbed atop a hillock along with their livestock.

13 killed in road accident in Pakistan's Punjab province, including children

GLOBAL WEATHER
LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • SW: Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	36	21	TDS	Los Angeles	32	19	LC
Colombo	29	26	LC	Melbourne	13	10	HR
Dhaka	33	27	TDS	Moscow	29	18	HR
Dubai	39	32	SNY	New York	27	20	LC
Houston	35	25	SNY	Singapore	31	26	TDS
Istanbul	28	23	LC	Toronto	25	18	LC
London	29	18	LC	Washington	22	18	LC

Coptic Church blaze in Egypt kills 41; stampede raises body count

Initial investigation suggests that electrical short-circuit triggered the fire, injuring 16 others

CAIRO

A fire ripped through a packed Coptic Orthodox church during morning services in Egypt's capital on Sunday, quickly filling it with thick black smoke and killing 41 worshippers, including at least 10 children.

The church quickly filled with thick black smoke, and witnesses said several trapped congregants jumped from upper floors to escape. "Suffocation, suffocation, all of them dead," said a distraught witness.

Sixteen people were injured, including four policemen involved in the rescue effort.

The cause of the blaze in the Abu Sefein church in the working-class neighbourhood of Imbaba was not immediately known. An initial investigation pointed to an electrical short-circuit, according to a police statement.

Footage from the scene circulated online showed burned furniture, including wooden tables and chairs. Firefighters were seen putting out the blaze while others carried victims to ambulances. Families waited for word on relatives who were inside the church.

Charred furniture, including wooden tables and chairs and religious imagery are seen at the site of a fire inside the Abu Sefein Coptic church on Sunday | AP

The country's health minister blamed the smoke and a stampede as people attempted to flee the fire for causing the fatalities.

Witness Emad Hanna said the church includes two places used as a daycare for children, and that a church worker managed to get many children out.

"We went upstairs and found people dead. And we started to see from outside that the smoke was getting bigger, and people want to jump from the upper floor...We found the children."

Egypt's Coptic Church and the country's health ministry reported the casualty toll. The church said the fire broke out while a service was underway. The church is located in a narrow street in one of the most densely populated neighborhoods in Cairo.

Fifteen firefighting vehicles were dispatched to the scene to put out the flames while ambulances ferried casualties to nearby hospitals, officials said.

President Abdel Fattah el-Sissi spoke by phone with the Coptic Christian Pope Tawadros II to offer his condolences, the president's office said. Sheikh Ahmed al-Tayeb, Al-Azhar's Grand Imam, also offered his condolences to the head of the Coptic Church.

"I am closely following the developments of the tragic accident," el-Sissi wrote on Facebook. "I directed all concerned state agencies and institutions to take all necessary measures, and immediately to deal with this accident and its effects."

Health Minister Khaled Abdel-Ghafar said in a statement that two of the injured were discharged from a hospital while 12 others were still being treated.

Sunday's blaze was one of the worst fire tragedies in recent years in Egypt. *AP*

HARD TALK

Rishi Sunak calls for imposing sanctions on Iran after attack

LONDON

THE brutal attack on noted author Salman Rushdie should be a wake-up call for the West to impose tougher sanctions against Iran and proscribe the country's elite military unit as a terrorist organisation, UK PM hopeful Rishi Sunak said on Sunday.

He told *The Daily Telegraph* that attempts to revive the Iran nuclear deal, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), may be futile and it was important to assess action against Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC).

He spoke as the suspect in the attack on Rushdie, Hadi Matar, was on Saturday charged with attempted murder and assault and remanded without bail. Preliminary investigations suggest his sympathies with the Shia extremism and IRGC.

"The situation in Iran is extremely serious and in standing up to [Vladimir] Putin we can't take our eye off the ball elsewhere," Sunak told the newspaper.

"A nuclear-armed Iran would pose an existential threat to our ally Israel, and indeed imperil the whole of Europe with ballistic missile capability. We urgently need a new, strengthened deal and much tougher sanctions, and if we can't get results then we have to start asking whether the JCPOA is at a dead end. The brutal stabbing of Salman Rushdie should be a wake-up call for the West, and Iran's reaction to the attack strengthens the case for proscribing the IRGC," he said.

Under the original JCPOA agreement, signed in 2015, Iran received relief from sanctions in exchange for agreeing to strict curbs on its nuclear activities. Former US President Donald Trump withdrew America from the JCPOA deal in 2018, but President Joe Biden has sought to resuscitate it, arguing it is the best way of stopping Iran from developing a nuclear bomb.

Support for Rushdie

France's Goncourt Academy offered its support to Rushdie. The academy "condemns the barbaric act for which there can be no justification... (and) offers... solidarity", it said

A fatwa calling for Rushdie to be killed over his book 'The Satanic Verses' was issued by Iran's former Supreme Leader, late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, in 1989.

Since the stabbing of Rushdie at a literary festival at the Chautauqua Institution in New York state on Friday, Iranian media have welcomed the attack and activists and opponents of the Iranian regime said its rulers bore responsibility for the attack.

While the Iranian regime appeared to renounce the threat in 1998, in 2019, Ali Khamenei, the current Supreme Leader, tweeted that the fatwa was solid and irrevocable. *PTI*

Rushdie off ventilator, on the road to recovery

LONDON

THE family of Salman Rushdie are extremely relieved he has been taken off a ventilator following his stabbing, and the British author has retained his defiant sense of humour, his son said on Sunday.

"We are extremely relieved that yesterday he was taken off the ventilator and additional oxygen and was able to say a few words," his son Zafar tweeted.

Rushdie's agent Andrew Wylie said that Rushdie was on the road to recovery, two days after he was stabbed multiple times in a shocking assault at a literary event in New York state.

Zafar said that despite the promising news, his father's injuries were life-changing and severe, and that he remained in a critical condition. But his usual feisty & defiant sense of humour remains intact, he added.

Zafar offered thanks to audience members who bravely leapt to his defence and for the outpouring of love and support from around the world.

The author spent years under police protection after Iranian leaders called for his killing over his portrayal of Islam and the Prophet Mohammed in his novel "The Satanic Verses".

The suspected assailant, Hadi Matar, 24, was wrestled to the ground by staff before being taken into police custody. He was arraigned in court Saturday and pleaded not guilty to attempted murder charges. *AFP*

John Garamendi shakes hand with Donald Yu-Tien Hsu | AP

US lawmakers visit Taiwan after 12 days of Pelosi's trip

TAIPEI

A delegation of American lawmakers arrived in Taiwan on Sunday, just 12 days after a visit by US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi that prompted China to launch days of threatening military drills around the self-governing island.

The five-member delegation, led by Democratic Sen. Ed Markey of Massachusetts, will meet President Tsai Ing-wen and other officials, as well as members of the private sector, to discuss shared interests including reducing tensions in the Taiwan Strait and investments in semiconductors.

China, which claims self-ruled Taiwan as its territory, responded to Pelosi's August 2 visit by sending missiles, warships and warplanes into the seas and skies around Taiwan for several days afterward.

The Chinese government objects to Taiwan having any official contact with foreign governments, particularly with a high-ranking congressional leader like Pelosi.

A Taiwanese broadcaster showed video of a US government plane landing about 7 pm Sunday at Songshan Airport in Taipei, the Taiwanese capital.

While it wasn't confirmed who was on board, the American Institute issued a brief statement soon after announcing the delegation would be in Taiwan on Sunday and Monday as part of a trip to Asia.

The other members of the delegation are Republican Rep. Aumua Amata Coleman Radewagen, a delegate from American Samoa, and Democratic House members John Garamendi and Alan Lowenthal from California and Don Beyer from Virginia.

Chinese warplanes have been crossing the midpoint of the Taiwan Strait on a daily basis even after the conclusion of the military exercises, with at least 10 doing so on Sunday, Taiwan's Defense Ministry said.

The 10 fighter jets were among the 22 Chinese military aircraft and six naval ships detected around Taiwan on Sunday, the ministry said on its Twitter account. *AP*

US nationals among injured as gunman opens fire on bus in Israel

Israeli police investigators work at the crime scene of a shooting attack that wounded several people near the Old City of Jerusalem on Sunday | AP

JERUSALEM

ISRAELI police on Sunday arrested a suspect in a pre-dawn shooting spree targeting a bus just outside Jerusalem's Old City that wounded eight people, including a pregnant woman and several US citizens.

"The terrorist is in our hands," police spokesman Kan Eli Levy told Israeli public radio hours after the bloody attack not far from the Western Wall, the holiest prayer site for Jews.

Several American citizens were among the wounded, said the US embassy, which declared that "we are shocked and saddened by the terrorist attack" but gave no further details on the victims, citing privacy concerns.

The gunman started spraying bullets at the public bus and people on the street in the attack at the Tomb of David bus stop near the Old City's Zion Gate, recounted bus driver Daniel Kanievsky.

"I was coming from the Western Wall. The bus was full of passengers," he told reporters in front of his bullet-riddled vehicle. "I stopped at the station of the Tomb of David. At this moment, the shooting started. I saw two people outside falling, two inside were bleeding. Everybody panicked."

One of the wounded was a pregnant woman, whose baby was delivered by Caesarean section after the attack, a spokesman at Jerusalem's Shaarei Tsedek Hospital told *AFP*. "She remains intubated and in serious condition," he said. "The infant was delivered and is in serious but stable condition."

The US embassy said that "we can confirm that US citizens were among the victims... Due to privacy concerns we will have no further comment." Following an hours-long manhunt, police said a suspect had turned himself in. They also published a picture of the handgun he had allegedly used. *AFP*

EXPRESS READ

Ship carrying tonnes of grain for hungry Ethiopia leaves Ukraine

A United Nations-chartered ship loaded with 23,000 metric tonnes of Ukrainian grain destined for Ethiopia set sail on Sunday from a Black Sea port, the first shipment of its kind in a programme to assist countries facing famine. It plans to sail to Djibouti, where the grain will be unloaded and transferred to Ethiopia under the World Food Programme initiative. Ethiopia is one of five nations that the UN considers at risk of starvation

Here are some significant events in connection with the Taliban takeover

FEB 29, 2020
US President Donald Trump's administration signed an agreement with the Taliban committing to withdraw US troops from Afghanistan by **May 1, 2021**. The Taliban promised to halt attacks on Americans

APRIL 14, 2021
President Joe Biden said the remaining **2,500-3,500** US troops in Afghanistan will be withdrawn by **Sept 11**

AUG 15, 2021
The Taliban marched into Kabul as internationally backed President Ashraf Ghani flees the country

AUG 16, 2021
Many civilians reached Kabul's international airport, hoping to get on flights as US troops and officials organise evacuation flights

TALIBAN COMPLETES YEAR, WOMEN IN BIG DISTRESS

The Taliban's capture of Kabul on August 15, 2021 brought the hardline movement back into power in Afghanistan. The year since has been disastrous for the nation. After initially signaling they would be more moderate than in their previous time in power, the Taliban turned to a hard line, crushing women's rights and imposing greater control over the press

AUG 18, 2021
At the first Taliban press conference, spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid promised no reprisals against former soldiers, saying that Taliban will allow women to work and study

AUG 26, 2021
Islamic State group suicide bombers killed over 170 Afghans and 13 US troops in an attack on the crowds trying to be evacuated at airport. Several days later, a US drone strike killed 10 civilians

AUG 13, 2022
Women marched in front of Education Ministry in Kabul and demanded rights to work and political participation. Taliban fighters violently dispersed the women's protest and beat women protesters

JULY 27, 2022
Amnesty International issued a report saying Taliban policies are suffocating women at every level of their lives, pointing to the curbs on schooling and work, increased child marriage

MAY 7, 2022
The Taliban ordered that all women in public must wear all-encompassing robes and cover their face except for their eyes

MARCH 23, 2022
The Taliban suddenly reversed a promise to allow girls above the sixth grade to attend schools. Girls were told to go home

SEPT 7, 2021
The Taliban announced the formation of an interim government, made up entirely of Taliban figures and men

SL Navy rejects reports of war games with Pak ship

COLOMBO

THE Sri Lankan Navy on Sunday rejected media reports that it will hold war games with a Pakistani warship docked at the Colombo port but confirmed that it will hold a "Passage Exercise" in the western seas with PNS Taimur as it leaves the island nation.

The docking of Pakistan's newly-commissioned Chinese-built frigate at the Colombo port on Friday came amid Sri Lankan government allowing a high-tech Chinese research ship to visit the southern port of Hambantota from August 16 till 22.

Sri Lanka allowed PNS Taimur to make a port call in Colombo while on its way to join the Pakistan Navy fleet after the Bangladesh government denied it permission to dock at Chattogram Port.

The Sri Lankan Navy in a statement on Sunday said the Pakistan Navy Ship (PNS) Taimur, which arrived in Sri Lanka on a formal visit, is scheduled to conduct a Passage Exercise with SLNS Sindurala in seas off Colombo as she departs the island nation on August 15 upon completion of her visit.

"In this backdrop, certain media reports circulating about a War Game between Sri Lanka Navy and Pakistan Navy are fallacious," the release said. It said the Sri Lankan Navy had conducted similar Passage Exercises with the navies of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Japan, Germany, UK, Russia and Australia.

PNS Taimur is the second of four powerful Type 054A/P frigates built by China.

It was delivered to the Pakistan Navy in Shanghai on June 23. *PTI*

ASIA MATTERS

JOINT AIR FORCE EXERCISE WITH CHINA BEGINS

THAILAND: Thailand and China kicked off a joint air force exercise on Sunday, the kingdom's military said, the first such drill in years following a pause by Covid-19. Thai Air Chief Marshall Prapas Sornchaidee said Falcon Strike, running from August 14-25 in the northeast of the country, was meant to strengthen relations and understanding with China.The visiting Chinese contingent will include fighter jets, bombers and airborne early-warning planes, the defence ministry in Beijing said last week. It added that the drills will involve training for air support, strikes on ground targets, and small- and large-scale troop deployment. The Thai-Chinese air force drills were held regularly since 2015 until the pandemic hit

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav
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QuoteExpress IF YOU'RE GOING THROUGH HELL, KEEP GOING › WINSTON CHURCHILL

Indian investors' journey from physical to financial assets

They were earlier mostly investing in physical assets like gold, and in bank FDs or small savings scheme; this changed in 90s

UMA KANNAN @ Bengaluru

INDIAN retail investors have come a long way since the independence in 1947 when it comes to channeling their savings to financial instruments. They were traditionally less savvy investors, mostly investing in physical assets like gold and land. And whatever little household savings that came into financial instruments, they were mostly in bank FDs and small savings schemes.

In 1950-51, only 9% of the household savings were parked in financial instruments. Rest of all were in physical assets. But this changed fast over the next two decades probably largely due to two significant events - nationalisation of Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) in 1956 and advent of mutual funds with the incorporation of Unit Trust of India (UTI), India's first mutual fund.

In the next couple decades, financial savings accounted for 30-35% of household savings.

Nationalisation of LIC

Nationalization of LIC was a big boost to financial inclusion of a large number of people in India. In 1957, LIC garnered ₹200 crore in new business premium, and it took 13 years to cross ₹1,000 crore new business premium in 1969-70.

"Despite looming economic challenges, the government started addressing subjects related to wealth and financial stability at a household level relatively early," says Nirav Karkera,Headof Research - Fisdom.

The formal inclusion of the post office savings bank in the constitution happened in 1949, and the mutual fund industry in India started in 1963 with the formation of Unit Trust of India. "Furthering the small savings agenda, the mid-20th century Government Savings Certificate Act and Public Provident Fund Act were used as the foundation to launch several schemes to develop the small savings culture in India," Karkera explains.

And while by the 1980s, a large chunk of household savings was coming into financial instruments like insurance, bank FDs and post office small savings schemes, it was not until the 1990s people were investing in equities.

Equity investments get a boost

Post the liberalisation, there has been a drastic change in the investment options that are at disposal of investors now, says Dev Ashish, founder, Stable Investor. Slowly in the 1990s, equity investments started gaining popularity. The growth of Indian stock markets in the last three decades has shown the potential for wealth creation for everyone.

The growth in equity investments in the 1990s was marked by a couple of very important events - formation of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) as the regulator of the securities market in 1988, and the entry of private mutual funds in 1993.

Of course, a new wave of PSU bank-backed mutual funds had already entered India's investment scenario in 1987, but it was the private mutual fund players who gave the industry a new flavour and taught investors less risky ways of investing in stock markets - through Systematic Investment Plans (SIP) "Hence, the middle-class Indian now wants to participate in this and benefit. As of now, Indians are pumping in close to ₹12,000 crore every month via equity funds alone. This is a figure which would have been hard to believe just a few years ago," says investment advisor Ashish.

Pension savings get a boost with NPS

India has a robust retirement benefit infrastructure largely categorised as either a lump sum retirement benefit or an annuity pension plan.

"The opening up of the National Pension System (2003) and Atal Pension Yojana (2015) to non-government employees has opened up as a strong investment avenue for the general public, and has been pivotal to include a major segment of the population - the ones employed within the large unorganised segment of the economy that construes a major share," says Karkera.

The size of the pension assets is ₹35 lakh crore, of which 22% - ₹7.72 lakh crore is with the NPS. Supratim Bandyopadhyay, chairperson of PFRDA (Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority) recently said that over the 13-year period, we have given a CAGR of 10.27%. He added that they have always given investors an inflation projected return.

Fintech boom

Apart from these, new technologies into offerings of financial services companies have changed the entire personal finance landscape. Customers can be onboarded within a few minutes by fintech and online trading apps.

Fintech firms offer interactive tools to their customers that can track capital markets and provide them enough data in making educated choices. A recent report by Chiratae Ventures with Ernest and Young (EY) says that the Indian fintech market is expected to record a 10x growth and to achieve $1 trillion in Assets Under Management (AUM) and $200 billion in revenue.

However, India still lags most major countries of the world in terms of AUM funds as a percentage of GDP. "This relatively low penetration provides a large potential and opportunity for strong growth ahead. Earlier, it was about getting a LIC policy in the name of investment. But more and more people are realising that traditional endowment-type plans aren't suited for proper investment needs," says Ashish.

He adds that there is still a lot of mis-selling happening at various levels in various products. But regulators are gradually cleaning up the age-old mess and things will only get better from here.

Key milestones in India's investment ecosystem post 1947

- Nationalisation of LIC: **1956**
- Entry of the first mutual fund Unit Trust of India: **1963**
- India's most popular benchmark index -- S&P BSE Sensex -- comes into existence: **1986**
- Formation of Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi): **1988**
- Incorporation of National Stock Exchange: **1992**
- Entry of private mutual funds: **1993**
- First electronic or screen-based trading started by NSE: **1994**
- Opening of National Pension System (NPS) for all citizens: **2009**

PM Modi, India Inc remember Big Bull

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@ New Delhi

BILLIONAIRE investor Rakesh Jhunjhunwala, who was battling with health problems, was declared dead Sunday morning. Known for his conservative but shrewd stock picks, Jhunjhunwala had a cult-like status among a section of investor/trader community. His death came as a shock to the nation and many influential people paid their condolences.

On the event of Independence Day, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Tweeted, "Rakesh Jhunjhunwala was indomitable. Full of life, witty and insightful, he leaves behind an indelible contribution to the financial world. He was also very passionate about India's progress. His passing away is saddening. My condolences to his family and admirers."

To note, Jhunjhunwala was a vocal supporter of PM Modi and his economic policies. The two shared a very cordial relationship. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman also remembered Jhunjhunwala and said he had strong belief in India's strength and capabilities. "Investor, bold risk taker, masterly understanding of the stock market, clear in communication- a leader in his own right," she used these words while describing Jhunjhunwala.

The investor, often called as India's Warren Buffett or the Big Bull, had entered the stock market in 1985, the Sensex was at 150 points and is leaving when the Sensex is at around 60,000 points. On account of placing successful bids, he amassed a fortune worth an estimated $5.8 billion.

While he had a portfolio of about 4 dozen stocks as of June 30, his big bet on Tata Group stocks is well known. "Rakesh Jhunjhunwala, who sadly passed away this morning, will always be remembered for his acute understanding of the stock exchanges of India," said Ratan Tata, Chairman Emeritus of Tata Group.

Tata Group Chairman N Chandrasekaran extended his condolences to the family. "Rakesh Jhunjhunwala believed in India and the sheer potential of the country. This conviction led him to consistently make bold decisions throughout his life & career."

Financial freedom as your action plan

RAJAS KELKAR

INDIA'S 'tryst with destiny began in August 1947. The nation was free politically from colonial rule. Economically though, India remained under siege. Draconian laws stifled businesses and prevented markets from determining prices. For decades, the government remained the most significant job creator. It was only in 1991 that India began opening up the economy slowly. That was nearly two decades behind China and other East Asian tiger economies.

The history of independent India is half glass full on democracy and half glass empty on the economy. That means successive governments in India have to do a lot more to expand the economy rapidly. That is irrespective of the ideology. Rapid economic reforms and growth are the only ways to lift people from poverty. That entails encouraging a culture of entrepreneurship. The government cannot alone solve problems for the people through public sector investments. You need business people to take risks and commit capital too. As governments build more efficient transport systems in urban areas and build roads and utility infrastructure in rural areas, businesses have an opportunity to grow.

In a way, that is excellent news for an investor who is looking to grow wealth steadily. Businesses thrive on the back of an expanding economy. They create jobs and boost consumption in the economy.

From your standpoint, that is useful as companies rely on the demand created to sell their goods and services. Growing their business and profits allows share prices to move upwards. The overall trajectory of share prices is always in line with companies' profit growth. That is valid for the past 40 years since we have records on the BSE S&P Sensex and over 30 years for the NSE Nifty.

You are committed to your work for a large part of your life. If you enjoy your work, you will enjoy your journey. However, most people struggle to find the work that they love and the one that compensates well at the same time. In such a situation, your job becomes necessary, and you look for other avenues to earn more.

Investing is a natural progression in that context. If your investments do well, you can generate a corpus allowing you to lead a life on your terms. It is at least a 20-25 year project. If you start work early and learn to invest, you can get to that state by the time you get close to 50.

Before you start investing, you need to learn about your spending habits. As you earn more, you need to save and invest more.

Your investments have to be led by equity assets. They have to beat inflation in the economy over the 20-25 year investment span. Index investing is an efficient approach to channelise your savings into wealth.

Your approach towards money

Financial Independence Retire Early, or FIRE, is a concept propagated by many personal finance writers and advisors. It entails you to save and invest to accumulate assets towards a target amount that is enough to generate a passive income. That passive income is generated by drawing out 4% of that amount every year. For example, if you accumulate assets worth ₹2 crore. That means you can withdraw ₹8 lakh every year without affecting the value of that money. You can withdraw more if your investments generate a reasonable rate of return. That is possible only through appropriate asset allocation. There are limitations to a defined benefit or guaranteed return scheme offered by the government. The 10-year government bonds are offering yields to the tune of 7.2%. You can certainly generate more returns through index investing. The Sensex has consistently offered a 13-14% average return over 30 years. That is provided you can stay invested.

All of that boils down to your approach toward money. If you spend more than you earn or spend before your investment, your investment plan is doomed. You also need to know a bit more about how your money is allocated to asset classes. With so much information available at the tap of your smartphone, not knowing about investing is no longer an excuse.

(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)

Asset allocation and passive income

Financial Independence Retire Early, or FIRE, is a concept propagated by many personal finance writers and advisors. It entails you to save and invest to accumulate assets towards a target amount that is enough to generate a passive income. That passive income is generated by drawing out 4% of that amount every year.

SOURAV ROY

MONEY-WISE

CHANGING PORTFOLIO & TAX IMPLICATIONS

PV SUBRAMANYAM

WHEN you buy a mutual fund and sell it after some time, you will pay some tax. This tax is called 'Capital Gains Tax'.

However, there are some completely unintended actions of yours which could lead to a huge (really huge) tax burden! This is WITHOUT selling your mutual fund units. Well, technically your funds went from one scheme to another, but you did not sell.

Tough to understand? I do not blame you at all!

Obfuscation is what happens. Let me enumerate them:

- If a couple - say a Husband and Wife are holding the units jointly in a Mutual fund, and on the death of say the second holder, the surviving spouse wants to make it a Joint investment with his children or his sibling, he cannot do it. He cannot change the holding except by redeeming and re-investing. This sounds odd, but it is true. When he redeems and re-invests, he will attract capital gains tax. This does not happen in a bank fixed deposit - if you wish to add a second or third holder there will be no tax implication.
- If a unit holder in a mutual fund wants to leave his mutual fund investments equally to his 2 children, he will have to create 2 folios! If one child gets everything, he/she will have to redeem and give the cash to the other kid. What if he wanted to create 2 folios - with each child holding half his units? Both these options will involve taxation.
- If an investor shifts from investing through a distributor to 'direct', he/she will save a lot of management fees going forward. Is it a good thing to do? Yes, but hey, that does not come free. Be ready to pay Income tax on that transaction - I am sure the law does not intend that, but as of now, that is the law.
- If an investor withdraws from a poorly performing fund to invest in a well performing fund - there is no cash available to pay the tax! However he can re-invest only 90% as he/she will have to pay Long Term Capital Gains!
- The provision in respect of Real Estate is very different. If you sell Real Estate - the tax can be dramatically reduced - to even NIL by buying another real estate. Not true for gold, mutual funds, or bonds or direct equities. As of now, if you change asset classes (other than RE) be willing to pay Income tax.

Even capital gains needs a lot of rationalising - bringing Real Estate, Gold, Mutual funds, bonds, Equities, etc. taxed in a similar way. Thus what is long-term, how much rate, will it have indexing, etc. - should be uniform. Of course all that is far beyond the scope of this article. This article is just a warning - before you make a change in folio, method of holding, changing of second holder or third holder, be careful. You cannot reverse a transaction and say 'there should be no tax'. So please consult a mutual fund adviser and or a Chartered accountant before you do the transaction. Crying over spilt milk is of no use, caveat emptor!

FINANCIAL ADVICE

PV SUBRAMANYAM

writes at www.subramoney.com and has authored the best seller 'Retire Rich - Invest ₹ 40 a day'

EXPRESS READ

Ashishkumar Chauhan appointed as NSE MD, CEO

NEW DELHI: Leading bourse National Stock Exchange (NSE) on Sunday said that shareholders have approved the appointment of Ashishkumar Chauhan as its managing director and chief executive. The Extra Ordinary General Meeting (EOGM) of NSE was held on August 11, according to a statement.

Bank of India sees 10-12% growth in advances

NEW DELHI: State-owned Bank of India expects advances to grow by 10-12% in the current fiscal year with corporate loans yet to pick-up, top official said in an analysts call. The bank's year-to-date (YTD) loan growth stood at about 5% mainly driven by Retail sector advances, Agricultural and MSME loans (RAM).

Saudi Aramco's profits already $88B as oil prices stay high

NEW DELHI: Saudi oil company Aramco's half-year profits peaked just shy of $88 billion for the first half of the year as oil prices remain high globally, the company said Sunday. The company said it also saw a 90% surge in net profits for the second quarter of 2022 compared to the same time last year.

Jhunjhunwala was an eternal optimist about India's growth story

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Jhunjhunwala owned a private trading company, Rare Enterprises, which derives the first two characters from his name (Ra) Rakesh and the first two characters of his wife (Re) Rekha.

Conservative yet secure in his approach when it came to picking companies for investment, Jhunjhunwala believed positive cash flow is a sacred cow, the sanctity of which cannot be undermined in investing. His time-tested approach and his portfolio are followed religiously by many. Investors tried to follow his buy and sell calls, some even tried replicating his portfolio.

Known for his candour and straight talk, Jhunjhunwala minced no words while taking political stands or airing his views on sectors/companies. He did not try to delve into sectors he did not understand, and he had famously said he did not need to invest everywhere. So, when he decided to give technology IPOs -- the likes of Zomato -- a miss, many thought the Big Bull had lost his Midas touch. Going by the performance of those stocks, we now know he got it right.

He was a bigger Bull when it came to the India story. He was an eternal optimist about the prospect of India and its economy. He had his reasons.

When Jhunjhunwala first entered the stock market in 1985, the Sensex was at 150 points; he left when it is close to 60,000. In this long period, he stood firm even as contemporaries and the two other big bulls - Harhsad Mehta and Ketan Parekh - fell. Jhunjhnwala had his fair share of controversies, too.

Last year, he, his wife Rekha and eight others had to settle a case pertaining to alleged insider trading in shares of Aptech by agreeing to pay more than ₹37 crore. In recent years, his investment in redundant companies such as JP Associates, DHFL, Yes Bank raised eyebrows.

In personal life, Jhunjhnwala had a contrasting personality. Unlike marque investors who are dressed sharply in three-piece suits, he was a guy with simple taste.

People who knew him personally said he was keeping unwell for the past few months and was often seen in a private Mumbai hospital. While his immediate cause of death was cardiac arrest, he also was battling chronic kidney disease, high diabetes and obesity. Jhunjhunwala is survived by his wife Rekha and three children.

Jhunjhunwala took his one last bet in the airlines business with the recently launched Akasa Air – a low-cost airline. The airline took off for its first flight from Mumbai to Ahmedabad on August 7. Seven days later, its promoter took off, of course, for a new beginning.

Now, Pujara hits career-best List-A score

Cheteshwar Pujara smashed his way to a career-best List A score of 174, notching up his second hundred in a span of 48 hours as Sussex amassed a mammoth 378 for 6 against Surrey in the Royal London Cup One Day Championship on Sunday. On Friday, Pujara had caned the Warwickshire attack en route his 79-ball 107 albeit in a losing cause.

Rahul, opener or finisher?

As Rahul returns, it would be interesting to see where he bats

GOMESH S @ Chennai

THE last time India toured Zimbabwe, KL Rahul became the first male batter from the country to score a century on ODI debut. He made his debut as an opener and has been one of the top three options for the role in the 50-over format. Six years on, Rahul will be returning to Harare as the captain, but it is not quite clear what his role would be in the batting line-up.

In the past, he has been shuffled between various roles based on the availability of their first-choice openers, Rohit Sharma and Shikhar Dhawan. Since January 2019, Rahul has opened only 14 times in 29 innings. In a full-strength Indian ODI XI, he largely bats at No 5, and gets moved around depending on the number of overs left. In the nine times he has batted at No 5 during the aforementioned period, Rahul averages 63.71, while striking at 114.35.

The last time India fielded a full-strength XI was against England in March 2021, and they had Rishabh Pant and Hardik Pandya with Rahul sandwiching them. With Pant averaging 39.05 at a SR of 110.46 (since Jan 2019) while batting between No 4-7, and Hardik (39.47 avg with a SR of 113.34), the trio forged a dynamic middle-order — something India lacked in their previous World Cup cycle. In fact, since the pandemic broke, none of the top three has scored a century. It is the middle-order that has been stepping up for them.

Which is why where Rahul would bat in the three-match ODI series is interesting. In the West Indies tour, Shubman Gill opened and seemed to be settling into that role, with 205 runs in three innings. Although Ruturaj Gaikwad is also in the squad, Gill could potentially keep his role at the top. Unless, the skipper wants to do it himself.

It is no secret that Rahul has been struggling with intermittent injuries off late. In 2022, he has played only two Tests and four ODIs. Coming back into the side from an injury, the 30-year-old has been picked for the Zimbabwe tour to get some game-time under his belt (initially, Rahul's availability was subject to fitness). With the Asia Cup and a tight schedule in the lead up to the T20 World Cup in Australia, this series could be the one where they would be testing the waters with Rahul's fitness.

That said, the focus at the moment is on T20Is and India has a chance to use Rahul at No 5 and play the way they would want him to in the shortest format while retaining his regular role in the ODI setup. It would also help them groom Gill into the role as a backup opener for the home ODI World Cup next year. However, with this management, one can't be sure. In recent months, apart from Rohit, everyone else has been moved around to figure out who would fit in where. It's been chaotic, but with results going their way, it hasn't affected them. This Zimbabwe tour is an opportunity for Rahul to get into groove for the T20 World Cup, but how he and VVS Laxman, who would be coaching the team for this series, are going to use it, one would have to wait and watch.

Chhetri upbeat ahead of Durand Cup

ANMOL GURUNG @ Chennai

SUNIL Chhetri has been carrying the torch of Indian football for a long time now. And his love affair with the sport, which has yielded countless magical moments, remains undiminished. For someone who sets the bar high, Chhetri is as hungry as ever at 38. As another national football season comes into view, the Bengaluru FC (BFC) skipper is embracing the challenges in store.

Chhetri and the rest of the squad members had been training in Bellary since late last month as part of pre-season ahead of the Durand Cup (season-opener), scheduled to begin from August 16. After bossing the first couple of seasons (2017-18, 2018-19) in the Indian Super League (ISL), Bengaluru have been underwhelming in the last two seasons. And Chhetri & Co. are determined to change that narrative under new coach Simon Grayson, former English footballer who has abundance of experience at the top level of management.

The absence of playing in familiar conditions in front of loyal fans could have also affected their output. The last two seasons of the ISL was conducted in Goa due to the Covid-19 pandemic. On Sunday, the BFC players, who have a good mix of youth and experience this time, had their first open training session at the Bangalore Football Stadium (BFS) and understandably, the players were stoked about it. "It was outstanding, just the feeling of playing with your fans is something that we had forgotten. It was a pleasant reminder, it was amazing," Chhetri said during a virtual media interaction organised by BFC, who announced the signing of Sandesh Jhingan on Sunday.

On a personal level, Chhetri knows that age is not on his side. Last season, Chhetri had been forced to start from the bench on a few occasions and had finished with just four goals. But a good showing with the national team during the AFC Asian Cup qualifiers has injected that much-needed kick and he's determined to do what it takes, in terms of fitness, to make a positive impact.

"For the last four, five years, whatever changes I brought in my diet and the amount of water I drink has been very rigid and monotonous. That's probably because I have found a sweet spot. I don't take chances... I know I'm not young anymore and I don't have the liberty of taking chances and I have also realised is that the way you eat is the way you perform, the way you think and way you behave," he said.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Kane helps Spurs to a 2-2 draw

AGENCIES @ London

COACHES Antonio Conte and Thomas Tuchel squared off in incredible post-match scenes following a feisty 2-2 encounter between Chelsea and Tottenham on Sunday. Both coaches had already exchanged words before Harry Kane's last-gasp header levelled the game just before full-time. Referee Anthony Taylor showed red-cards to both Tuchel and Conte as an angry handshake led to further remonstration with both benches getting involved. Chelsea took the lead through new signing Kalidou Koulibaly before Spurs equalised through Pierre-Emile Hojbjerg. Reece James scored to restore the advantage for the hosts before Kane's goal. In an early match, West Ham United suffered a surprise 1-0 loss at Nottingham Forest, who were promoted from the Championship.

Meanwhile, Barcelona were held 0-0 by Rayo Vallecano in their opening game of the La Liga season.

Mirabai and other CWG lifters out of Asian C'ships

FIROZ MIRZA @ Chennai

WITH 10 medals (3 gold, as many silver and 4 bronze), Indian weightlifters once again topped the medal tally at the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham. The gold medallists were Mirabai Chanu (49kg), Jeremy Lalrinnunga (67kg) and Achinta Sheuli (73kg). These medallists, along with other CWG participants, will not represent the country in the upcoming Asian Weightlifting Championships. The continental event is scheduled in Manama, Bahrain from October 6 to 16.

Given the hectic international schedule, the Indian Weightlifting Federation (IWLF) has decided to give an opportunity to the youngsters for the Asian Championships. Their senior counterparts will focus on tournaments, which will serve as qualifying events for the 2024 Paris Olympics.

"The IWLF decided in a meeting that CWG participants should not be given back-to-back events as they had just competed at the CWG. Besides, this is not an Olympic qualifying event. The first such event is World Championships in December. So the lifters from the core group will focus on the Worlds while others will get a chance to represent the country at the Asian event," Vijay Sharma, weightlifting head coach, told this daily.

The IWLF had sent preliminary entries for the continental tournament as every participating federation was required to send that latest by August 8.

As per the regulations available on the International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) website for the Asian Championships, a member federation can send preliminary entries of a maximum of 20 men and as many women. The final entry of 10 men and as many women apart from two reserve lifters for each category has to be sent latest by September 8.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Kho kho: Giants and Yoddhas win

ENS @ Chennai

THE inaugural edition of Ultimate Kho Kho kicked off in style as Gujarat Giants trumped Mumbai Khiladis 69-44 in the opening game of the season at the Shree Shiv Chhatrapati Sports Complex, Pune on Sunday. In the second match between Chennai Quick Guns and Telugu Yoddhas, the latter won by 10 points (48-38).

Yoddhas did not take much time to secure a massive lead as they finished turn one 25-0. Chennai edged their way into the game, gaining 15 points in turn two as the score read 15-29 at half-time. In the second half, the Yoddhas were unstoppable. They kept bagging points consistently, taking the lead upto 48. Chennai fought hard till the end, upping their tally to 38, but fell short in the end. Earlier, Mumbai dominated in the first turn of seven minutes, leading 22-2, but Gujarat came back stronger to gain control. At the half-way mark, the score read 24-26 in favour of Gujarat.

EXPRESS READ

Honda Racing rider Senthil finishes 15th

TOKYO: IDEMITSU Honda Racing India team earned a point with Senthil Kumar finishing 15th in round 3 of 2022 FIM Asia Road Racing Championship (ARRC). In his first stint at the Sportsland SUGO international circuit, Senthil managed to bounce back from a DNF in race 1 to claim a point for the team.

Mandhana shines for Brave in The Hundred

LONDON: Smriti Mandhana smashed a 25-ball 46 for Southern Brave against Oval Invincibles in The Hundred clash on Sunday, helping them beat the latter by 12 runs. Earlier in the day, Northern Superchargers trumped London Spirit by 5 runs. **Brief scores:** Superchargers 127/4 (Heath 57) bt Spirit 122/7 (Luff 39 n.o); Brave 153/8 (Mandhana 46) bt Invincibles 141/7.

Ahlawat, Sharma sign off tied 12th

SINGAPORE: Indian golfers Shubhankar Sharma and Veer Ahlawat finished Tied-12th at the inaugural International Series Singapore here on Sunday. Gaganjeet Bhullar also had a good day as he shot a superb six-under 66 to give himself a big boost ahead of next week's International Series event in Korea.

Independence Day Greetings to All Fellow Citizens

on Completion of **75 Years** of Freedom

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
Government of India

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

Coming 25 years of 'Amrit Kaal' to be 'Kartavya Kaal' of every citizen
Let us build together India of our freedom fighters' dreams

"On the occasion of the Independence Day, grateful Indians bow to their countless freedom fighters. As the champion proponents of freedom had joined hands for the cause of independence, in the same way, we have to unite for the development of the country."

- Narendra Modi

Watch live telecast of the Independence Day ceremony from the ramparts of the Red Fort on Doordarshan from 6:25 a.m. onwards

#HarGharTiranga

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Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

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BJP
Ray of Hope in Independent India

India Shining - Shri Vajapayee Govt.

- Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee became the Prime Minister when NDA came to power in 1998.
- **Sarva Shiksha Campaign** was implemented during his term, which made education a fundamental right for children aged between 6 and 14.
- **The New Telecom Policy,** formulated during his term, revolutionized India's telecom sector.
- **The Golden Quadrilateral Road Project,** which connected four Metros, gave further thrust to India's development.
- **The river-linking project,** envisaged to address the drought situation in the country, was one of Vajpayee's dream projects.

A New Era of Development under Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi

- Shri Narendra Modi became the Prime Minister in 2014. During his term, many revolutionary transformations have taken place in the country.
- **By abolishing Article 370,** Shri Modi took a bold decision to resolve the Kashmir impasse. **Foundation stone has been laid for the New Ram Temple in Ayodhya.**
- With the implementation of **GST,** Indian economy has received a significant fillip. The handling of the Covid-19 epidemic in India received praise from WHO and world leaders.
- Schemes such as **PM Gareeb Kalyan Anna Yojan, PM Kisan Samman Scheme and PM Awas Yojana,** which benefit the farmers, labourers, and the poor, have been launched and implemented.
- **Ayushman Bharat PM Jan Arogya Yojana** has been implemented to make quality health care services accessible to the poor.
- Under NDA rule and Shri Modi's leadership, India is striding towards a bright future.

Promising steps towards a great future

In Karnataka, Shri Basavaraj Bommai-led Govt. has given significant thrust to welfare measures and comprehensive development of the state with the goal of building a prosperous Karnataka for the development of all.

Amritha Schemes

- Implementation of Amritha Schemes for various development programmes as part of India's 75th Independence Day celebrations

Vidyanidhi Scheme for farmers and poor

- Raitha Vidyanidhi Scheme: Rs.439.95 crore worth of scholarships distributed to 10.03 lakh children of farmers. The scheme has been extended to the children of fishermen, yellow board taxi drivers and weavers.

Swami Vivekananda Yuva Shakti Yojane

- Constitution of 27,395 "Swami Vivekananda SHGs @ 1 SHG per GP to encourage the rural youth to take up self-employment and economic activities. Goal to provide skill training to 65 lakh rural youth.

Focus on welfare of SC/ST

- Rs.28,234 crore allocated under SCSP/TSP projects
- Rs.580.19 crore grants and additional grants of Rs.410 crore for SC/ST Corporations. Total Rs.990.19 crore
- Rs.572.18 crore scholarships for SC/ST students
- Free electricity to poor SC/ST families raised from 45 units to 75 units. To benefit 39.25 Lakh families.

Fisheries-Dairy Farming-Sericulture

- 'Matsya Siri' Scheme to improve the income of fishermen. Under this scheme, 100 deep sea shipping vessels will be introduced in the State.
- To establish Ksheerasmruddhi Cooperative Bank for the benefit of milk producers
- Incentive increased by Rs.50 for every kg of bivoltine cocoons

Regional Balance

- Grants for the development of Kalyana Karnataka doubled.
- Rs. 3,000 crore allocated.

Stree Samarthya

- To further enhance business activity in SHGs, Rs. 500 crore community capital corpus released to 33,333 SHGs @ Rs.1.5 lakh per SHG. To benefit 3.9 lakh women.

Priority for education

- Karnataka - the first State to implement National Education Policy 2020
- Seven Govt. Engineering Colleges of the State upgraded as Karnataka Institute of Technology (KIT)
- Historical step taken to build 8101 classrooms at a cost of Rs.1,412 crore

Karnataka No. 1 in FDI

- MoUs for 1.31 lakh crore worth of investment signed at the World Economic Forum held in Davos and later

76th Independence Day Greetings to all the citizens of the State

BJP - KARNATAKA

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15•08•2022
MONDAY

DAY'S DIARY

Significant contribution

On this day in 1994, Anne Frank House awarded South African President Nelson Mandela for his contributions toward advancing democratic practices.

AGAINST APARTHEID

Mandela engaged in resistance against the ruling National Party's apartheid policies after 1948. He was arrested in 1962 and was imprisoned for 27 years.

FIRST DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENT

He became South Africa's first democratically elected President in 1994 and served one term. Later, he worked with foundations for the welfare of people.

MEDAL OF HONOUR

The medal honours the memory of Anne Frank, the Jewish teenager who hid from the Nazis before being deported to the concentration camp.

Moments from TNIE's Har Ghar Tiranga drive

PG 3

FLAVOURS OF FREEDOM

This Independence Day, check out some specially-curated food experiences organised by hotels in the city

Scrumptious bounties

Take your family and friends along to experience a special selection of chef curations and live music.

WHEN: August 15, 1pm
WHERE: Radisson Blu, Outer Ring Road
CONTACT: 88844 00155

Taste in Independence

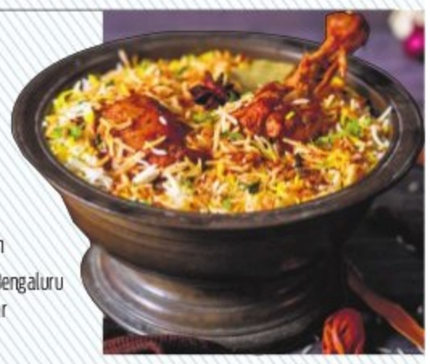
Experience delicacies celebrating the patriotic fervour this Independence Day.

WHEN: August 15
WHERE: ITC Windsor, Sankey Rd
CONTACT: 080 6140 1205

Freedom feast

Enjoy the rich and diverse cuisine of India through a special buffet curated by chef Arun featuring dishes from across the country.

WHEN: August 15, 12.30 pm
WHERE: Sheraton Grand Bengaluru at Brigade Gateway, Rajajinagar
CONTACT: 080 4252 100



Indulgence in Azadi

This Independence Day, immerse yourself in the flavours from across India with this buffet that pays tribute to the Indian cuisine along with a few favourites from Oriental and Western kitchens. **WHEN:** August 15, 1 pm **WHERE:** The Oberoi, MG Road **CONTACT:** 080 2558 5858

Unity in diversity

Celebrate this Independence Day with a variety of cuisines from various cultures that come together to represent... From the distinct flavours of Gujarati cuisine to the sea food from the south Indian coast, and signature desserts.

WHEN: August 15, 11 am
WHERE: JW Marriott Bengaluru, Vittal Mallya Road
CONTACT: 8884494037

Food o'clock

Dig into a wide variety of lip-smacking dishes from a special food menu celebrating Indian cuisine with a surprising twist all day long.

WHEN: August 15, 12 pm
WHERE: SuzyQ by 1522, Queen's Road
CONTACT: 080 4725 00 88

-Neha Rebecca Chacko

To draw attention towards the lesser-known figures of Indian Independence, NGO SWARI- Silk and Wooden Art Research Institute have created a card game Azaadi1.0, a fun way to learn history

HISTORY ON CARDS

MONIKA MONALISA

A moment comes, which comes but rarely in history, when we step out. from the old to the new – when an age ends, and when the soul of a nation, long suppressed, finds utterance." When Jawaharlal Nehru delivered those words, the unflinching struggle for India's Independence became a part of the newly-born nation's history and the present "solemn moment" was transformed into the promise for future.

In that history, many distinguished fighters were left out to be only remembered in tales. With years, their stories of the battle that unshackled India from the British Raj have been woven into the chapters of this country.

Kelappan was from Kerala; Rani Gaidinliu hailed from Manipur, and Tanguturi Prakasam was from Hyderabad. They were separated by territory but their motive was singular, and it was to free their motherland from the grip of British rule. But the cruelty of history had pushed them into obscurity like many of the unsung heroes.

To celebrate 75 years of Independence would also mean recognising the contributions of such figures who "Rise like Lions after slumber/In unvanquishable number - Shake your chains to earth like dew/ Which in sleep had fallen on you/Ye are many – they are few," as PB Shelley wrote in *The Mask of Anarchy*.

If you are already looking them up on the internet, then there is a fun old-school way of doing this. NGO SWARI-Silk and Wooden Art Research Institute, which works towards improving the living conditions of the silk and wood artisans, has come up with the card game Azaadi 1.0. The game comprises a deck of cards with 40 characters from the freedom struggle.

Today's generation doesn't know about their role in India's Independence, apart from reading in history books. But how the movement gathered momentum in the country is unclear to many.

Sreepriya Menon, co-founder, SWARI

Sreepriya Menon, one of the co-founders of the Ramangara based NGO, says the cards are about basic facts and trivia about freedom fighters. "Most of the time, we don't know all the people who were part of the freedom struggle, and their contribution," she says, adding, "They might be familiar with the names because a road or a building could be named after them. But today's generation doesn't know about their role in India's Independence, apart from reading in history books. But how the movement gathered momentum in the country is unclear to many."

Some names might sound familiar because the freedom fighters came from a certain place or a community, and through this card game, the creators wanted to shed light on the lesser-known names. "In history, sometimes we don't find representations from all the states. The North Indians might know about those from their region but are completely oblivious about those from the south, and vice-versa," says Menon, adding that 40 freedom fighters have been chosen from various parts of the country in an eclectic mix and their contributions have been presented.

The game was formulated during the pandemic to raise funds for families who lost their bread-winners. It was also the NGO's way to draw attention of people towards the community. However, Menon says, this is a way to bring people back to manual games rather than the digital. "It's a memory game. It's a fun way of learning history and at the same time it's a strategy game that can be played with the family," reveals Menon, adding that the cards can be played in two ways. Get the game at ₹299 today.

GRUB HUB

Avin Thaliath (@chef_avin), pastry chef and thedirector of Lavonne Academy of Baking Science And Pastry Arts, dishes out a food-related quiz in this weekly series. Be a real 'whisk' taker and let us know if you have what it bakes. Who knows, your dreams may crumb true.

THE QUIZ WILL BE PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

Send answers to **bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com** with the subject line **'Food quiz'**

The correct answers and names of the first three respondents with right answers will be featured in *CE*. The first prize winner this week will win a ₹500 discount voucher from Panditji **

THE RIGHT ANSWERS

1. Moringa and drumstick 2. Manni 3. Patrode

FIRST 3 TO GET IT RIGHT

1. Madhura Moogi
2. Vasumathi Vijayakumar
3. Meenakshi Raghavan

CITY READ

Jewellery brand showcases Varalakshmi collection

Reliance Jewels launched the Varalakshmi Collection for south India with the brand campaign 'Glow Like A Goddess'. Commemorating the festival Varalakshmi Vratam, the campaign and design are inspired by the 'Kalpavruksh Tree' from the ancient lore of Samudra Manthan. With a yellow and antique gold temple designs collection and a diamond collection, Sunil Nayak, CEO of Reliance Jewels, commented at the launch that they were pleased to bring these distinct styles which are in sync with the tastes of customers from the region. With this year marking their 15th anniversary, the brand is also offering a 25 per cent off on gold jewellery making and diamond jewellery value for all customers until August 31.

KIOCL Making the Environment Clean
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Har Ghar Tiranga
13th-15th August 2022
View of Pellet Plant
Pellet Stock Yard
Pellet Ship Loading
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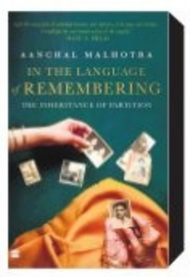
BOOK NOOK

Bruised Passports: Travelling the World as Digital Nomads

By Savi Munjal & Vidit Taneja

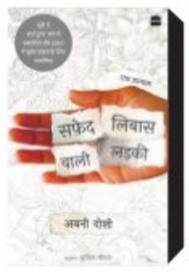
Inspired by their lives, Savi and Vid tell you how to be successful digital nomads.



In the Language of Remembering : The Inheritance of Partition

By Aanchal Malhotra

Brings together conversations recorded over many years with generations of Indians, Pakistanis, Bangladeshis, and their respective diaspora.



Safed Libaas Wali Ladki

By Avni Doshi

A journey into shifting memories, altering identities, and the subjective nature of truth. Tracing the fragile line between familial devotion and deception, this novel will surprise and unsettle you.

Cricket Ka Commonwealth

By Ramachandra Guha

Blending memoir, anecdotes, reportage & political critique, the book is a rivetingly readable account of cricket as played in the country that has made this sport its own.

WHAT WHEN WHY WHERE

The hills are alive

Escape to the granitic Ramanagara hills and engage in rope activities, rappelling and zipline along with a trek.

WHEN: August 15, 6.30 am

WHERE: Ramanagara Ramdevara Betta, Ramanagara **DETAILS:** highape.com

Take a hike

Trek under the stars in this night hike on the Uttari Betta through green landscapes, jungle caves and hilltops.

WHEN: August 15, 11 pm

WHERE: Gopalan Arcade, RR Nagar

DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

HUMOROUS HUMANS

Watch the funniest local comedians and enjoy some good food as they try to get you to burst out laughing.

WHEN: August 15, 8 pm

WHERE: Bistro Claytopia, Koramangala **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

When work is play

Learn the art and science of game development using Roblox Editor through hands-on projects with experts.

WHEN: August 15, 11 am

DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Green city

Donate tree seed balls to the Jeevanamrutha Foundation to do your part in making the city a little more greener.

WHEN: August 15, 9 am

CALL: 7010334889

Laugh out loud

Currently on tour, Anirban Dasgupta is back with a new hour of stand-up titled 'Polite Provocation'.

WHEN: August 15, 5 pm

WHERE: Bangalore International Centre, Domlur

DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

HEALING CHAKRAS

Know yourself better with the secrets to achieve a greater degree of control over your emotional and physical health by attending this workshop.

WHEN: August 15, 1.30 pm **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

Food Fest

Indulge yourself in this food fest offering unlimited pizza and continental dishes along with a variety of special chaats, mocktails and desserts.

WHEN: August 15, 4 pm

WHERE: Play Arena, Marathahalli Road

DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

PATRIOTIC MARCH

Ahead of I-Day, students were seen practising for the Independence Day parade at Field Marshal Manekshaw Parade Ground | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

QUICK FIX

BEETROOT HALWA

INGREDIENTS

- **Beetroots:** 2, medium sized
- **Milk:** 1 cup
- **Sugar:** 1/2 cup
- **Ghee:** 2 tbsp
- **Khoya:** 100 g
- **Green cardamom:** 1 tsp
- **Cashews:** 6, broken
- **Raisins:** 8
- **Ghee:** 2 tbsp

METHOD

- Grate the beetroot and fry cashews/badam and raisins in ghee.
- Add grated beetroot in the same pan and sauté on low flame for about five minutes.
- Now add milk to it and mix well. Close the pan and let it cook on low flame for about 10 minutes.
- Keep stirring in between and when the beetroots have almost soaked the milk, add sugar to it and mix it well.
- Add khoya and mix it well. Add cardamom powder, mix it and remove from flame.

What's cooking in your kitchen?

We are hungry for recipes with minimum ingredients and maximum flavours. Share your quick-fix with us, along with step-by-step photos, at bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com

FIT BIT

ADHO MUKHA SVANASANA VARIATION

(DOWNWARD FACING DOG POSE VARIATION KNEES BENT)

It is used by beginners to get a feel of the upper body stretching. Mostly, there is a tendency for beginners to hunch their backs a little in Adho Mukha Svanasana. They don't understand the importance of upper body alignment to drop the heels and straighten the legs. This is used as a transit pose in Ashtanga Vinyasa Yoga.

STEPS

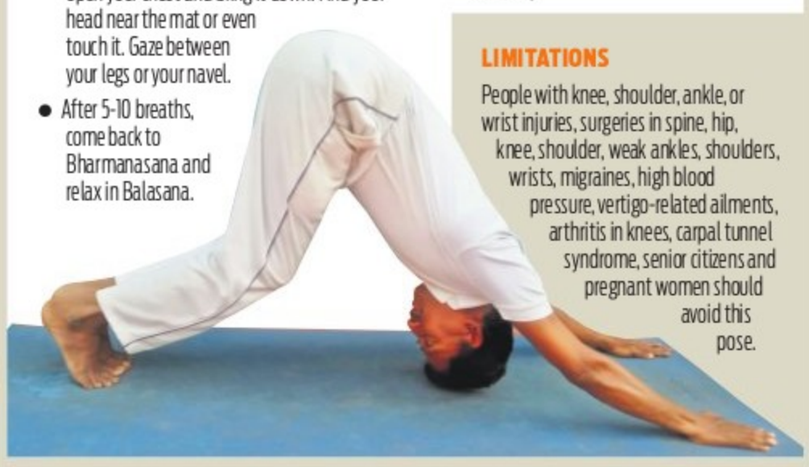
- Start in Bharmanasana (Table Top Pose). Inhale, bring your feet together. Tuck your toes on an exhale and lift your knees off the floor. Reach your pelvis up toward the ceiling, and pull your hips up.
- Stretch your elbows and push your upper back. Spread your fingers wide, press firmly through your palms.
- Distribute your weight evenly across your hands. Press the floor away from you as you lift through your pelvis. Lift your sit bones up. Keep breathing and knees bent.
- Rotate your arms internally, avoid locking elbow to prevent pressure on the wrists. Roll your shoulder blades away. The upper body should be close to the thighs.
- Stay here. Keep breathing; with every exhale, open your chest and bring it down. Find your head near the mat or even touch it. Gaze between your legs or your navel.
- After 5-10 breaths, come back to Bharmanasana and relax in Balasana.

BENEFITS

- Stretches the arms, armpits, shoulders, and feet muscles.
- Strengthens the knees, tones the glutes, outer thigh muscles, and quadriceps.
- Stretches the hamstrings and lengthens the spine.
- Oxygen supply to the chest is increased. Improves blood flow to your head.
- Energises the body for more intense hip opening and core vinyasa sequences. Good for girls and women.
- Benefits the circulatory, respiratory and nervous systems.
- Improves hearling ability, sleep, and helps diabetic patients.
- Opens nasal blockade. Balances mental stability.

LIMITATIONS

People with knee, shoulder, ankle, or wrist injuries, surgeries in spine, hip, knee, shoulder, weak ankles, shoulders, wrists, migraines, high blood pressure, vertigo-related ailments, arthritis in knees, carpal tunnel syndrome, senior citizens and pregnant women should avoid this pose.



By N Elumalai, PhD scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

NOW STREAMING

REGIONAL

GARUDA GAMANA VRISHABHA VAHANA (Kannada)

In the coastal city of Mangaluru, best friends Shiva and Hari go on to become two of the most dreaded gangsters in the city. Can their long-standing friendship survive their greed and ego?

Cast: Raj B Shetty, Rishab Shetty, Gopal Krishna Deshpande

Watch on: Zee5

DARLINGS (Hindi)

Badru hopes her volatile husband will reform if he stops drinking. But when his rage goes too far, she and her mom boldly, albeit clumsily, seek revenge.

Cast: Alia Bhatt, Shefali Shah, Vijay Varma

Watch on: Netflix

SHERSHAAH (Hindi)

The story of a PVC awardee brave Indian soldier, Capt. Vikram Batra, who shot to fame during the Kargil War. His unflinching courage in chasing the Pakistani soldiers out of Indian territory contributed immensely in India finally winning the war in 1999.

Cast: Sidharth Malhotra, Kiara Advani, Shiv Panditt

Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

BACHELOR (Tamil)

A deeply flawed guy with behavioural issues and conservative background gets into a live-in relationship with a modern girl, and problems follow.

Cast: GV Prakash Kumar, Divyabharathi, Muniskanth, Bhagavathi Perumal

Watch on: Sony LIV

PUZHU (Malayalam)

A retired police officer has been living a peaceful life with his son. However, he becomes suspicious of all those around him, including his young son, when the attempts on his life increase. Who wants the retired policeman dead and why is he after him?

Cast: Mammootty, Parvathy Thiruvothu, Malavika Menon, Athmeeya Rajan, Nedumudi Venu, Vasudev Sajeesh Marar

Watch on: Sony LIV

All the streaming apps can be accessed on smartphones and smart TVs with Internet connection.

NATHICHARAMI (Telugu)

Reeling from the loss of her husband, a widow struggles to fulfill her physical and emotional desires despite social taboos around female sexuality.

Cast: Sruthi Hariharan, Sanchari Vijay, Sharanya

Watch on: Netflix

CLAP (Telugu)

Vishnu, a retired athlete, gives up on his dreams of winning a national gold medal, after an accident that required him to undergo amputation. Things take a turn when Vishnu finds out about an athlete, who couldn't fulfil her dreams like him. He decides to take it upon himself to help her win a national medal.

Cast: Aadhi, Aakanksha Singh, Krisha Kurup, Brahmaji, Nassar, Prakash Raj, Mime Gopi, 'Mundasupatti' Ramdoss

Watch on: Sony LIV

FOREIGN

MEMORY (English)

Alex, an assassin-for-hire, finds that he's become a target after he refuses to complete a job for a dangerous criminal organisation. With the crime syndicate and FBI in hot pursuit, Alex has the skills to stay ahead, except for one thing: he is struggling with severe memory loss, affecting his every move. Alex must question his every action and whom he can ultimately trust.

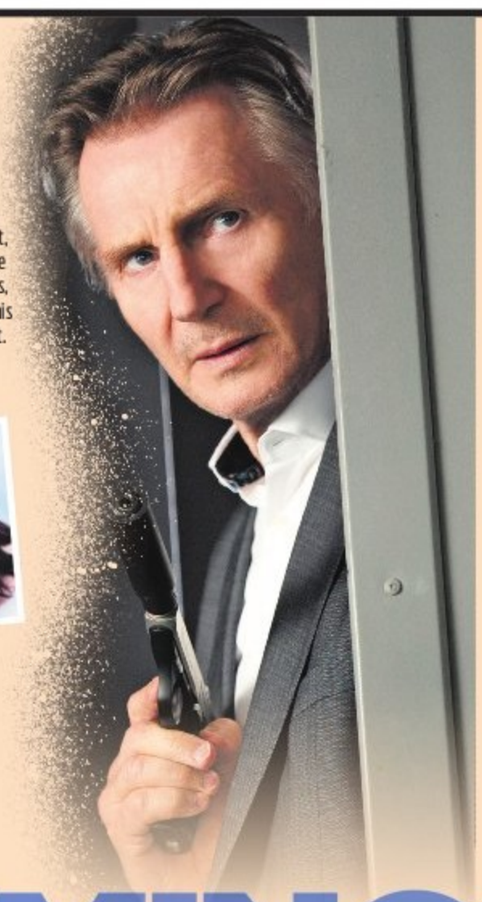
Cast: Liam Neeson, Guy Pearce, Taj Atwal

Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

MOTHER (Japanese)

Shuhei's erratic mother feels threatened when he starts to awaken to a world beyond her distorted control, sending the family hurtling towards tragedy. **Cast:** Masami Nagasawa, Sadao Abe, Daiken Okudaira

Watch on: Netflix



SOUNDS LIVE LOVE (Spanish)

Just as Maca's career reaches an inflection point, the enigmatic ex who broke her heart reappears in Madrid and she turns to her friends for support.

Cast: María Valverde, Álex González, Elisabet Casanovas **Watch on:** Netflix

DARK WATERS (English)

The film revolves around the life of a corporate lawyer, Robert Bilott, who's approached by a stranger to fight against a highly esteemed chemical company, DuPont. The investigation shocks Robert with the brutal reality of DuPont's business ways where people become its collateral damage. Robert tries to free the people from the evil clutches of DuPont, while his own life hangs in the balance.

Cast: Mark Ruffalo, Anne Hathaway, Tim Robbins

Watch on: SonyLIV

SUBSCRIPTION

Disney+Hotstar:	₹199 for 3 months
Zee5:	₹399 for 3 months
Prime Video:	₹179 per month
Netflix:	₹149 per month

MOMENTS OF FREEDOM

As part of the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign, *The New Indian Express* distributed table-top flags to thousands of people across the state over the weekend. This campaign under Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav initiative by the central government is an effort to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of Independence, and the glorious history of its people, culture and achievements. As the nation celebrates I-Day today, *CE* brings to you some of the moments from the campaign

PUBLIC NOTICE

CHANGE OF NAME

AFFIDAVIT

I, Mr. Rahman Khan, aged about 42 years, S/o. Mr. Mahaboob Khan, Residing at No.21, 12th Cross, 4th Main, Shreyas Colony, J.P. Nagar, 7th Phase, Bangalore South, Bangalore-560 078, do hereby state that my correct name is **RAHMAN KHAN.** But in my passport my name has been entered as **Rahman Khan Denkanikottai Mahaboob Khan**. Both names are of one and the same person. Sworn before Notary L. Puttaraju on 11.08.2022 at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **BASKAR R,** Residing at No. 72, Baivashri Nilaya 12th Main, Dead End Ags Layout, Arehalli, Bangalore - 560061, have changed my name from **BASKAR R** to **BHASKAR R**, vide affidavit dated 13/08/2022, sworn before notary M.K. Devaki, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

We, **ARAVIND KUMAR SAGIRAJU** and **KEERTHI ARUVELA,** Residing at No.589, 12th Main, 2nd Cross, 4th Block, Koramangala, Bangalore - 560 034, have changed our minor daughter's name from **AARADHYA SAGIRAJU** to **ARADHYA SAGIRAJU** vide affidavit dated: 12.08.2022 before Notary R. BASAVARAJA, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, D. J. KUMARA SWAMY, aged about 64 years, S/o.Late.Javare Gowda, Residing at #52 Doddasomanahalli Village & Post, S.B.Hobli, K. R Pete Taluk, Mandya District-571 436, Have changed my name from **A. C. KUMARA SWAMY** to **D. J. KUMARA SWAMY**, vide affidavit dated 13/8/2022 sworn before M. Prabhakar Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, MANJUNATHA RAMAIAH (Passport No. J5674742) (Date of Birth 28/03/1971) S/o. Ramaiah H and resident of #57, 2nd Cross, Nisarga Layout, Bonmil Bus stop, Hesaraghatta Main road, Bangalore-560073. have changed my name from MANJUNATHA RAMAIAH to **MANJUNATH RAMAIAH** vide affidavit dated 12/08/2022 sworn before Advocate and Notary Anuradha D., Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I Adappa N H S/o Nagappa. Resident at No 271, Arun Building, Muniswamy Street, Hanumareddy Colony, Hebbagodi, Gollahalli, Banglore -560100. do hereby solemnly affirm that As per Aadhar card My Son's name is PRATHAM KUMAR A H, But in His SSLC marks card UID No 7737979 is PRATHAM KUMAR. And all the names belongs to My Son only and henceforth I authenticate my Sons name as **PRATHAM KUMAR A H** only, Vide affidavit dated 10.08.2022 sworn to before Advocate and Notary Sreekantasastri, Anekal, Banglore District.

CHANGE OF NAME

I,**TWSHA VYASS D/o ASHISH VYAS**, residing at No.803, Block D, Shriram Samruddhi Apartments (Opp City Super Bazar) Thubarahalli, Bangalore North, Whitefield, Bangalore-560066,name mentioned in Aadhaar Card & ICSE 10th Marks Card is Twsha Vyass but in Birth Certificate it is Twisha Vyas. **Twsha Vyass & Twisha Vyas** both the Name is the Same Person vide Affidavit Dated 13.08.2022 before Notary Mahammed Hussain K, BA.,LLB, Advocate and Notary, Kengeri Upanagara, Bangalore - 560060

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SOMASHEKARA S.N, resident of No 40, Ground Floor, Ramanashree Layout, Bilekahalli, Ranka Colony Road, Bangalore 560076, have changed my name to **SOMASHEKAR S.N** vide affidavit dated 29/07/2022 sworn before Advocate & Notary Dharani .P, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

We **JAGADEESHA.K.R,** aged about 50 years, son of Sri.Ramalingappa.R, and **Smt. Rashmi.K.O** W/o Jagadeesha K R aged about 41 years, both residing at No.106, Flat No. 202, 13th Main Road, Binny Layout, Saraswathinagar, Govindarajanagara, Vijayanagara, Bengaluru-560040, Karnataka State, India, do hereby solemnly affirm that We have changed Our Son's Name From **POOJIT RAJ.J to PRAMATH.J** vide affidavit dated 13.08.2022 sworn to before Advocate and Notary H S Sakalesh Aradhya Bengaluru

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **NARESHCHANDRA**, Residing at No. 57/4, Room No.16 Konappana Agrahara, Anugraha Hospital, SG Palya Road, Electronic City Post, Bangalore-560100, have changed my name from **NARESHCHANDRA** to **NARESH CHANARA**, vide affidavit dated 13/08/2022, sworn before notary M.K. Devaki, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **RUSHIL V,** aged about 19 years, Residing at, Villa 112, S2 Avenues, Sree Narayananagar, Chickadunsandra, Kadugrahara, Bengaluru - 562 125, state that my Father's actual and correct name is **VASUDEVAREDDY** in my Educational Certificate it is wrongly mentioned as **VASUDEV REDDY.** I intend to rectify the same vide Affidavit dated:13-08-2022, sworn before Advocate & Notary Public, B.M. Chandrashekar, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **(OLD NAME) PARVEEN SULTANA** Residing at No. 11, 3rd Main, Mysore Main Road, Shamanna Garden, New Guddadahalli, Bangalore - 560 026. Have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) PARVEEN SULTANA** to **(NEW NAME) BASHA PARVEEN SULTANA** vide Affidavit Dated 13.08.2022 Sworn before Notary S.JAYANTH, Bangalore.

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'PATIENCE IS THE KEY TO SUCCESS'

A SHARADHAA

Darshan Thoogudeepa, the Challenging Star of the Kannada industry, completed 25 years in cinema on August 11. Darshan, the son of noted actor Thoogudeepa Srinivas, had a humble beginning as a light boy. From his journey as an artiste and hero, which began with *Mahabharatha* and *Majestic*, respectively, to his latest *Kranti*, he has faced many challenges to reach the 'Superstar' status.

The 55-film-old actor has delivered several blockbusters and has major records under his name. Darshan commands a terrific fan following, and he considers the achievement he has earned in this 25 years of journey in Sandalwood as a gift from his fans. "My 'celebrities' have been bearing with me for 25 years, which is a big thing," he says. Darshan reminisces about his film journey and shares his thoughts. "There are a lot of ups and downs but through the process, I believe that patience is the only key to success, and that is the same in any kind of profession. This is one lesson I have learned in my journey and would like to pass on the same thoughts to today's youngsters. Be it any aspirations or dreams, never sail on two boats. Follow one destiny and aim for it," he says.

Challenging Star Darshan talks about 25 years in Kannada film industry

Darshan Thoogudeepa

'From top leaders to the common man, everyone joined hands to get this freedom'

ALSO touching on the 75th Independence Day, Darshan says that our freedom wouldn't have been possible without a revolution." From top leaders to the common man, everyone joined hands to get this freedom. We are privileged to have the Indian flag and our own Karnataka flag, and respect should be given to both. We should be proud of our language and our heritage," he says.

'I'm at a loss of words to describe the support I have been receiving from my fans for *Kranti*'

THE shooting of Darshan's upcoming film, *Kranti*, directed by V Harikrishna and produced by Shylaja Nag and B Suresha is almost complete, and the makers have started post-production work.

Kranti is only getting bigger, especially with fans stepping in to promote the film. Even as the makers are working on the release date, celebrations have already begun. Over the past month, not a single day has passed by without hearing about *Kranti* and fans have been taking bike rallies, roadshows, prayers, and celebrations to talk about the film, and it has created a kind of revolution. "I'm at a loss of words to describe the support I have been receiving from my fans for *Kranti*. 'Thank you is a small word to express my gratitude. I'm not sure how it all began, how they got so close to the film, and are going out of their way to promote *Kranti*. I am just elated that they are taking time for me. This gesture has always surprised me, and I keep thinking, "What have I done that they are doing so much for me.' I am an actor for the big screen. But I can't act in front of them. Be good, and being yourself and normal is when they connect with you."

With *Kranti*, the makers are dealing with the theme of 'Akshara Kranti', a take on the education system. "I strive to entertain the mass audiences, and equally intend to do films that come with a social message. The film will explore the plight of government schools today. We will deal with the increasing price of education, and why government schools are not getting the kind of results that private institutions get," says Darshan.

The Pan-India film, which comes with the tagline 'Lean to fight alone' will be dubbed and released in multiple languages. Darshan, who is almost through with the dubbing for *Kranti*, says that the film will meet the audience's expectations. "*Kranti* is the second collaboration with Media House Studios and V Harikrishna after Yajamana. Going by the rushes, I'm happy with the way the film has turned out to be," says Darshan, who also told us that the official announcement of the release date will be revealed within the next three weeks.

Meanwhile, Darshan gears up to begin shooting for his next project on Tuesday. The yet-to-be-titled film produced by Rockline Venkatesh will have him collaborate with Roberrt director, Tharun Kishore Sudhir.

Emily Blunt

Emily Blunt joins Ryan Gosling in *The Fall Guy*

CE FEATURES

UNIVERSAL is adapting the classic 1980s TV series *The Fall Guy* as a feature film with Ryan Gosling as the lead. Emily Blunt has now joined the cast. David Leitch is directing the film, which is targeting a March 1, 2024 release date.

Drew Pearce, who worked with David Leitch on *Fast & Furious Presents: Hobbs & Shaw*, is adapting the script and also serves as executive producer. Leitch is producing with partner Kelly McCormick via their 87 North along with Guymon Casady, who will produce through Entertainment 360. Production for the film is set to begin in Australia soon.

Emily Blunt recently wrapped production on the Christopher Nolan film *Oppenheimer*, which also stars Cillian Murphy, Robert Downey Jr., and Matt Damon. She was last seen in Disney's Jungle Cruise opposite Dwayne Johnson.

RAVI BOPANNA IS STRICTLY FOR CRAZY STAR ADDICTS

RAVI BOPANNA

Cast: V. Ravichandran, Kavya Shetty, Radhika Kumaraswamy, Sudeep

Director: V. Ravichandran

A SHARADHAA

THE dream merchant of Kannada cinema V Ravichandran's latest outing, *Ravi Bopanna*, raked up a lot of expectations, especially among his fans. Ravi Bopanna, the official remake of the critically acclaimed 2018 Malayalam film *Joseph*, is a crime and investigation thriller with the intricacies of relationships and emotions interwoven in the narrative.

Ravichandran already has a distinguished reputation when it comes to recreating successfulfilms of other languages in Kannada. Presented in his typical style, Ravi Bopanna, adding elements from his previous films *Ekangi* (2002) and *Apoorva* (2018), has glamour and oomph interspersed with the original suspense genre, which is very reminiscent of his previous film, Malla.

RATING 3/5

Ravi Bopanna can easily be split into two parts — A family drama with past truths, and a thriller. The film revolves around Karma, a character created in the inner self of Ravi Bopanna, a master investigator but a dejected man now spending all his time smoking and drinking. Karma keeps appearing on the screen, almost in every frame through the first half, and at the end. While mocking Bopanna with a weird laugh, Karma preaches to the audience and also narrates the story of the titular role. The film's plot, which is centred mostly in the second half, is about a retired and intelligent cop, who is still sought after by the police department. Circumstances lead Ravi Bopanna to investigate the case of his ex-wife, and whether she was murdered or died in an accident. How he goes about cracking the case and exposes the truth forms the crux of this crime thriller. Even if Ravichandran wanted the audience to just go with the flow of the narration, it does get confusing for the viewers. He has approached the nonlinear method in narrating the story. The repeated appearance of Karma distracts the audience, who are more interested to know about the murder and the culprit.

The director has taken the core plot of the suspense thriller (*Joseph*) and has intelligently joined a few scenes (the episodes of him and Radhika Kumaraswamy) from his other film, which was yet to see the light of day. This is where he loses the grip but he manages to mesmerise us with his signature style of filmmaking.

Ravichandran in Karma's role is exceptional while as Bopanna he is sophisticated and composed, appearing in three get-ups at different ages. Sudeep's cameo appearance as a lawyer has been justified. Radhika Kumaraswamy looks beautiful but has nothing much to do. Kavya Shetty sets the screen on fire with her bold moves. Mohan, Ramakrishna, and Lakshman, who portray the roles of Bopanna's friends, are good but have limited characterisations.

Like many of his past films, the technician in Ravichandran has taken on a lot of responsibilities. The background score is soothing. We get to hear some old tunes from his films but only a couple of songs are impressive. The cinematography and editing pattern are worthy of mentioning. Ravi Bopanna is surely for all those Ravichandran fans who can understand his philosophy and his kind of filmmaking.

Shivarajkumar

Priya Anand

The film backed by Rockline Venkatesh will go on floors from August 20

Prabhudeva

Nishvika

PRIYA ANAND, NISHVIKA JOIN YOGARAJ BHAT'S NEXT WITH SHIVARAJKUMAR AND PRABHUDEVA

CE FEATURES

YOGARAJ Bhat, who is currently basking in the success of *Gaalipata 2*, is gearing up to begin shooting for his next project. The commercial entertainer, backed by Rockline Venkatesh, has Bhatru collaborating with Century Star Shivarajkumar and multifaceted actor Prabhudheva. Tentatively titled *Kuladalli Keelyavudo*, the film will be a period drama set in 1960 and 1970. The project was launched with a simple muhurath, and is set to go on floors from August 20. Now, the buzz is that the makers have finalised the heroine, sources share that Priya Anand and Nishvika Naidu have been roped in to play the female leads, and will be paired alongside Shivarajkumar and Prabhudheva, respectively. This is the first time Priya, who has previously worked with Puneeth Rajkumar in Santhosh Ananddram's *Raajakumara* and Chethan Kumar's *James*, will be working in a Yogaraj Bhat film.

Meanwhile, this project will mark the first big-ticket project of Nishvika, who recently played a cameo in Yogaraj Bhat's *Gaalipata 2*. The Shivarajkumar-Prabhudheva project will mark yet another big-budget film from Rockline Entertainments. An official announcement of Priya Anand and Nishvika coming on board and other details will be revealed soon.

Kung Fu Panda 4 confirmed to release in 2024

CE FEATURES

UNIVERSAL Pictures announced on Friday that they are working on a fourth instalment in the *Kung Fu Panda* series. The beloved animated film franchise will return to theatres on 8 March 2024.

The Kung Fu Panda series, developed by DreamWorks Animation, released the first film in 2008 and ended its trilogy in 2016. The CGI animated film series received critical as well as commercial praise, quickly expanding into television series, games, and theme park attractions. The film stars Jack Black in the lead, playing the titular panda Po Ping. Joining him in the ensemble cast are A-listers Angelina Jolie, Seth Rogen, Lucy Liu, David Cross, and Jackie Chan. The first Kung Fu Panda film went on to become the highest-grossing original animated film at the time, with a reported $631 million earned at the box office. The makers are tight-lipped about the plot, director, and whether the original cast is returning for the fourth film. The trilogy followed Po's adventures, dealing with the panda's insecurities, him reconciling with his past, and eventually reconnecting with his long-lost family.

Vijay Sethupathi plays a negative role in *Jawan*

SPECULATIONS about Vijay Sethupathi starring in the upcoming Shah Rukh Khan-Atlee film *Jawan* have been doing the rounds for a while now. The actor's PR team have now confirmed the same. In a statement shared on Twitter, it has been revealed that Vijay Sethupathi is playing a negative role in Jawan. It has also been clarified that he is not part of any Telugu projects as is being speculated.